

9-5-2016

Current, September 05, 2016

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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The Current

1966

Celebrating 50 Years as

2016

UMSL'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWS

VOL. 50

ISSUE 1506

SEPTEMBER 5, 2016

UMSL Triton Swimmers Make Waves

KAT RIDDLER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It might not be widely known on campus as yet, but the University of Missouri-St. Louis has a men's and women's swimming and diving team once again. Men's swimming and diving was initially added in 1971 and women's in 1977. Both of the programs were eliminated in the 1995-1996 season before being reinstated in 2014-2015.

With the program still in its infancy, Triton swimming athletes worked hard to represent UMSL last season. Diogo Dias, sophomore, won UMSL's first Great Valley Lake's Conference championship gold medal in the 100-yard backstroke last year. Dias is from Brazil and came to UMSL because one of his friends was on the swim team as well.

UMSL had others participating in the A-finals of the men's 100-yard backstroke and one swimmer in the B-finals at the GLVC championship. Radoslaw Chupka, sophomore, business administration, was fifth, while Nicholaz Ruiz, sophomore, business



Triton swim team

LEAH JONES/THE CURRENT

administration, was seventh and Alvaro Zaragaoza, sophomore, business marketing was 14th.

In women's swimming, Amber Visser, freshman, criminology and criminal justice, set a school record of 1:08.51 in the 100-yard breaststroke, and two school records for the 200-yard individual medley. Tatiana Vanegas set a new school record in the 1000-yard freestyle at the GLVC championships. And the women's relay team of Angiel Quiroga, sophomore, biology; Fatima Benbatti, freshman; Visser, and Marina

Villoch, sophomore, biochemistry and biotechnology, set a new school record of 1:52.46.

Head Coach Tomas Kuzvard was brought to UMSL to coach both the men's and women's teams when they were reinstated. The teams are made up of people from all over the world. Just last year they had students from nine different countries and their alumni come from all over the United States. They even had swimmers from China according to Kuzvard.

Kuzvard is very proud of all

the hard work his teams put in last year. Kuzvard said, "It is always a special feeling when I see an athlete succeed. This was obviously a huge accomplishment for Diogo, our program, and our swimmers. Anything is possible, and I know that others will be aiming really high this season as well."

Kuzvard has an amazing swimming record himself. A native of the Czech Republic, Kuzvard was a nine-time NCAA Division II National Champion and a 21-time All-American at Drury University, where he swam from 2006 to 2009. Kuzvard was a two-time National Champion in the 200-yard individual medley in 2007 and 2008 and also won national titles in the 200-yard backstroke in 2007, the 400-yard individual medley in 2007, and was on five national champion team relays. He was a member of the Czech National Team from 1996 to 2005 and won multiple Czech National Champion titles in long course and short course in the events of 100-yard backstroke, 200-yard backstroke, 200-yard individual medley (IM) and 400-yard

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UMSL Police Holds Open House, Engages Students

LEAH JONES
FEATURES EDITOR

Triton Take-Off Weekend and the Weeks of Welcome encouraged students to get involved on campus, but someone had to make sure that no one lost an eye during these events. The University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department (UMSL PD), helped to ensure that the events ran smoothly as students accelerated into the fall semester. However, the UMSL PD does much more than ensure ocular safety,

and the department held two open houses on August 30 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., and August 31 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. to educate the student body and faculty about their role on campus.

Officer Brian Clements, who works as the Crime Prevention and Community Involvement officer in the Special Operation Division of the UMSL PD, organized the event. Behind a table of cookies and lemonade, Clements and other officers answered questions from students. "I hope that this gets our brand out there to our

students, and just [lets] them know that we're here. If they need us for anything, we're always available. They have the benefit of having an officer being about a minute to two minutes away in an emergency," Clements said.

Clements' father, who worked for the Illinois State Police, inspired Clements to become a police officer. Clements began his career as a Missouri State Trooper in 2013. However, he said that working as a Missouri State Trooper is much different than working as a state police officer. "Their focus is

highway safety, that... I wasn't really looking for. So when we got out there and most of my job was writing people tickets and crashes, I was like 'This isn't fun.' It's really hard to be a state trooper if you don't like writing tickets. So that became a huge issue for me," he said. "I wanted to be more of a friendly face and interact with people."

His current position as the Crime Prevention and Community Involvement officer gives Clements exactly that chance. Clements said that

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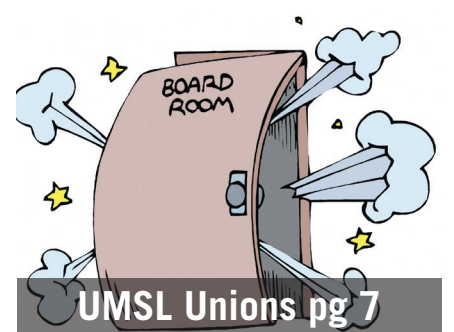
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS, OFFICE OF STUDENT INVOLVEMENT
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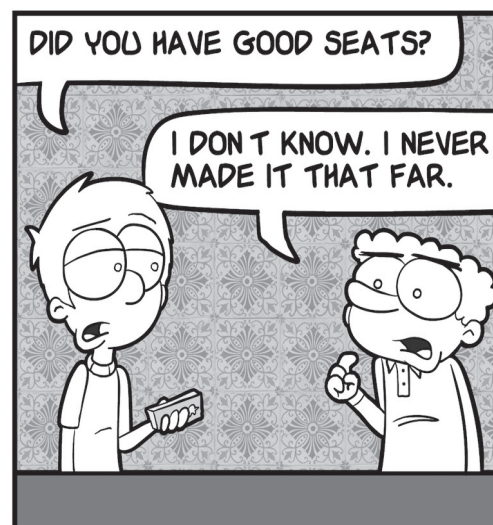
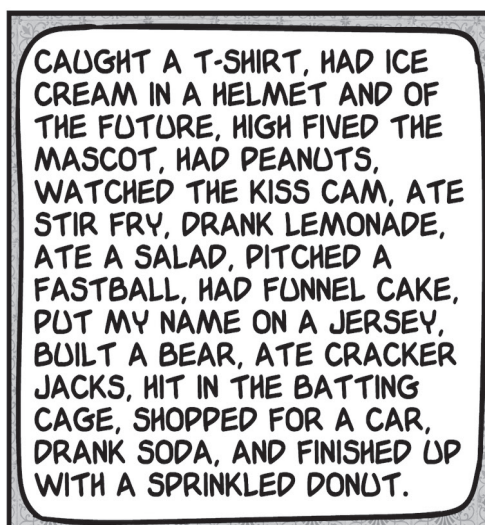
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ON THE QUAD BY MIKE DILIBERTO

FRIDAY
 SEPT. 9

UMSL NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

Cheer on the Cardinals for just \$20. Includes game ticket and food voucher for a soda and hotdog. visit umsl.edu/wow to purchase tickets

Assistant Basketball Coach Leaves UMSL

KAT RIDDLER
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

University of Missouri-St. Louis Assistant Men's Basketball Coach Rob Holloway has left for an assistant coaching position at Eastern Illinois University, a Division I school. Head Coach Bob Sundvold said, "It's a great move for Rob. It's his alma mater."

Holloway had been at UMSL for about nine months and left for this new coaching opportunity about two weeks ago. Sundvold said, "The coaching profession is very mobile and dynamic. Coaches

are pretty used to looking for an opportunity that is a good fit. Rob did a great job here at UMSL."

Prior to his one season at UMSL, Holloway spent three years as the head coach at Kennedy-King College in Chicago. During his tenure, the team posted a 48-46 record and had six All-Region performers including 2015 NJCAA All-Region 4 selection Dewan White.

White also earned the NJCAA Superior Academic Achievement Award in 2015 after recording a GPA between 3.8 and 3.99. Holloway was also on the coaching staff for

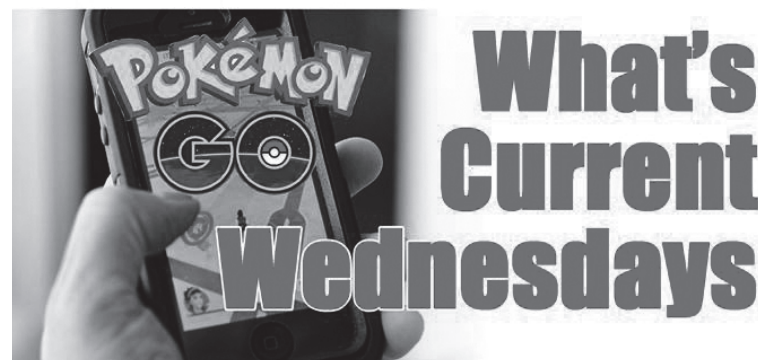
a pair of NJCAA Region 4 runner-up squads in 2009 and 2012 at Kennedy-King College.

Sundvold said that they are in the process of looking for a replacement. They hope to have one in about a week.



Coach Holloway

COURTESY OF ATHLETICS



What's up with the Pokémon Go Craze and Augmented Reality?

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016 at 2:00 PM

MSC SGA Chambers For Cookies and Conversation*

Join The Current and discussion leaders Maureen Quigley, Chair of Art and Art History, along with local game developer Malcolm Pierce for a lively, student-centered discussion. Are you an avid Pokémon "Goer" or are you wondering what this frenzy is all about? How is augmented reality connecting the digital world with the physical, and what are possibilities for the future? These are the types of questions we will be talking about during the session. The New York Times feature that will serve as the jumping off point for the conversation is "Pokémon Go Brings Augmented Reality to a Mass Audience" at:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/12/technology/pokemon-go-brings-augmented-reality-to-a-mass-audience.html>

"What's Current Wednesdays" is a monthly forum for faculty and student discussions about current events, co-sponsored by The Current and the New York Times, with support from Community Outreach & Engagement at UMSL.

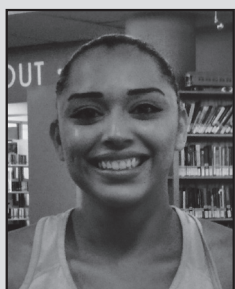
The Current

UMSL'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1966

For more information, visit The Current website at www.thecurrent-online.com.
 * Cookies dessert and beverages provided to the first 25 students.

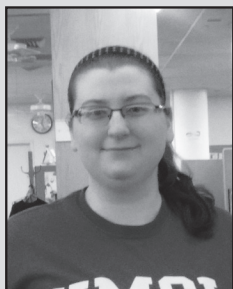
THE UNDERCURRENT By Candice Murdock

HOW HAS THE START OF THE FALL SEMESTER BEEN FOR YOU?



ELIZABETH MICHEL,
 Freshman, Art & Architecture

"UMSL seems to care about their students. They want to help you succeed and do better."



TAYLOR CLARK,
 Senior, Japanese & Computer Science

"Working in 1000 level classes for a Japanese major. I'm also practicing dialogue; you're basically another teacher."



ANNIE MBALE,
 Senior, International Business and Marketing

"The semester is starting out good, but balancing GMAT with classes is hard."

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UMSL Veterans Center Hosts Resource Day and BBQ



Student veteran coordinator Bob O'Neill (third from left), speaks with students during the Veterans Center's annual barbecue

LORI DRESNER/THE CURRENT

LORI DRESNER
NEWS EDITOR

With approximately 350 of them on the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus, the student veteran community makes up a good portion of the UMSL student body. To welcome both new and returning student veterans and raise awareness about their presence on campus, the UMSL Veterans Center held Veteran Resource Day and annual barbecue on campus on September 1.

Veteran Resource Day kicked off at 11 a.m. with an information session at the Veterans Center in 211 Clark Hall. Health and education representatives of the Veterans Administration (VA), representatives of the Vet Center, a psychological help center for veterans, and healthcare professionals were all present to answer questions and help connect veterans with resources and services. The information session was well-attended and full all morning.

Later in the day, student veterans came out for the Veterans Center's third annual barbecue in the North Campus Quad from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. In attendance were representatives from Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Pathfinder Foundation, social workers from Washington University, workers from Career Services, and several other services on campus. Small clusters of people gathered to enjoy food and drinks and speak with the representatives of these organizations, as well as staff from the Veterans Center itself.

Jim Craig, Department Chair of Military and Veterans Studies and associate teaching professor, explained that the barbecue served two main purposes. He said, "The first thing really is to get veterans together and to show them that there's other veterans around because a lot of them don't even realize it. Often you can't identify a student veteran

just from far away, right? So they don't know that there's vets around.

"The other thing that this serves is to remind the campus that there's [350] veterans on campus, and that's a pretty big block, and they're good people and they're good students and they're doing well. So that's why we do this, and that's why we do it right out here in the middle of the Quad."

Craig said that there is only a two-year difference between the average age of student veterans at UMSL, 29 years old, and the age of the average UMSL student, which is 27 years old.

He continued, "Your vet students are graduating at a rate that's equivalent with every other student. They're not struggling in any different way than any other students, and in fact our vet students are really some of the best students on campus, some of the best students in your classrooms."

Student veteran coordinator, Bob O'Neill, sophomore, pre-engineering, who is a veteran himself, was in charge of checking people in during the barbecue. When asked about what he would like for people to know about the student veterans on campus, O'Neill said, "Most veterans here are here to learn and make the most out of their time in school."

Craig also wanted to remind people that UMSL made a financial and a space commitment to veterans three years ago and that that commitment has paid off.

He said, "Veterans are coming to this school... they're graduating in numbers that we haven't seen before. They're enrolling in numbers we haven't seen before and it's the right group of people to support. These people will turn around and really be contributing members of our society..."

"The word's out that UMSL's the place for vets."

CAMPUS CRIME REPORT

SARAH HAYES
A&E EDITOR

The following is a series of daily crime reports issued by the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department since August 26.

August 26: At 11:05 a.m., a coin purse and ID were found in the UMSL PD parking lot and held by police for safe keeping.

August 27: At 1:39 a.m., a student at the Sigma Pi house was transported to the hospital after becoming intoxicated to the point of being ill. At 8:50 a.m., a student turned cash into UMSL PD that the student found by the shuttle stop at the Music Building.

At 7:04 p.m., UMSL PD and Residential Life and Housing (RLH) reported the smell of marijuana at Oak Hall, but a source could not be identified.

August 28: At 12:38 a.m., UMSL PD responded to a snake in the Oak Hall laundry room. The snake was in a service closet that could not be opened. The condition of the snake was not included.

August 29: At 7 a.m., the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center turned over to UMSL PD a collection of various keys that had been found by the theater over the past year. At 8:40 a.m., two vehicles were involved in an accident in the South Campus Parking Garage. At 11 a.m., another auto accident involving two vehicles occurred at the intersection of Grobman Drive and University Drive. In both instances, no injuries and only minor damages were reported. At 12:25 p.m., a student living in Oak Hall reported off-campus harassment by an ex-boyfriend.

UMSL PD seized marijuana and drug-related materials from Oak Hall at 6:42 p.m. after three students admitted

to smoking the drug on campus. The incident has been referred to Student Affairs. At 8:58 p.m., UMSL PD and RLH reported the smell of marijuana at Oak Hall but a source could not be identified.

August 30: At 8 a.m., a student reported the theft of a hubcap from their vehicle in the South Campus Parking Garage. At 2:55 p.m., UMSL PD verified the registration of a sex offender. At 7:13 p.m., a wallet belonging to a student was found in Express Scripts Hall and turned over to the UMSL PD for safe keeping. The wallet's owner has been notified. During the day, a student filed a report on their car being struck and damaged by a vehicle between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on August 29.

August 31: At 5 p.m., a vehicle in the Research Building parking lot was involved in an auto accident. No injuries were reported. At 6:31 p.m., a student in the Millennium Student Center reported being harassed by another student.

September 1: At 11:15 a.m., a student in Oak Hall was given medical treatment and released by the Northeast Fire Department after experiencing the side effects of unidentified medication. At 8:21 p.m., a laptop bag containing various personal items was found in the Millennium South Parking Garage. The bag was turned over to the UMSL PD. The owner of the bag was notified and later retrieved their property.

During the day, an auto accident involving two vehicles in the Millennium South Parking Garage was reported to UMSL PD. The accident originally occurred on August 31; no injuries and only minor vehicular damage was described.



Vet Center vehicle parked in the Quad during the Veterans Center's annual barbecue

LORI DRESNER/THE CURRENT



Representatives of veterans organizations speaking with attendees of the Veterans Center's annual barbecue

LORI DRESNER/THE CURRENT

Advanced Leadership Program Deadline Approaches

LEAH JONES
FEATURES EDITOR



You may have seen the billboards that line the highways telling drivers that a variety of different types of leaders chose UMSL. The Advanced Leadership Program gives University of Missouri-St. Louis students the chance to become one of these leaders, but the deadline to apply is fast-approaching.

Developed in 2011, the Advanced Leadership Program is an 11 week course designed to help UMSL students develop leadership skills to enhance their degrees and college experience. In past years, students have just completed self-reflections to track their development. This year, the program incorporates a "360 Assessment," in which other people in the student's life will also reflect on how the student exhibits those characteristics. "They'll also have a friend assess them, [as well as] a colleague, a professor, a family member, [and] a supervisor, to kind of get a better idea of how other people perceive them in these areas as well," said Jenna Bartak, Leadership Education Coordinator in the Office of Student Involvement.

Students get the chance to network with executives in the St. Louis area and to collaborate with other student leaders. Just as importantly, they develop the ability to convey this expertise to potential employers, both verbally and on paper.

The program helps students develop

their Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership, which include modeling the way, inspiring a shared vision, challenging the process, enabling others to act, and encouraging the heart.

"This is... the basis and foundation of our program," said Aaron Pelloquin, graduate, counseling, who also serves as the Graduate Assistant for Leadership Education. "Then we take a different leadership topic like motivation and we look at that as it applies to these five practices of leadership and we... break that down and allow student to personally see where they are as far as the topic."

Students build these characteristics by attending workshops and site visits, completing weekly reflections, doing a mock interview and resume critique with Career Services, and presenting a leadership portfolio that they will develop over the course of the program. Students will also meet with the Leadership Education staff, which includes Pelloquin and Bartak.

The reflections, which are done weekly, form a substantial part of the program. Near the beginning of the program, students will create an action

plan on how they intend on developing the Five Exemplary Leadership Practices "Over the course of the semester, after each workshop or site visit, they have to complete a reflection of what they learned. Then they have one-on-ones with Aaron or I, and we'll go over how they are growing in those action steps that they set up for themselves," Bartak said.

In addition to the opportunity to get feedback from their peers and mentors, students will also have the chance to go on site visits to organizations in the St. Louis area. This year, students will visit Mission STL, Wells Fargo, and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The site visits will last from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and food and transportation will be provided.

Since reflection and assessment is already built into the program, completion of the Advanced Leadership Program counts as 50 points of Campus Engagement and Education for the new Chancellor's Engaged Leadership Certificate. The certificate is a self-paced program that Bartak suggests students complete over four semesters. It requires 150 points.

Juniors, seniors, and graduate students with GPAs of 2.5 or higher may apply for the program. Sophomores who have completed the Emerging Leaders Program may also apply, but this is not a requirement for students who are in their junior year of study or above. Only 20 students will be admitted into the Advanced Leadership Program. "It is a competitive program," Bartak said. However, she did not want that to discourage students with little leadership experience from applying. "We look at who we think would benefit best from the program. So they may not have a ton of leadership experience and that's totally fine. We may decide that they're going to benefit more from it more than someone who has a plethora of leadership experience."

"It really is a sweet and unique opportunity for students to challenge themselves... It allows them to be involved, meet other students, [and] staff member too, and it's just a way for them to grow in leadership development," Pelloquin said.

Workshops will be held on Fridays from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., though site visits will be held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 9.

Students can find out more about the program at umsl.edu/studentinvolvement/Leadership%20Programs/Advanced%20Leaders%20Program.html.

They can apply on TritonSync at orgsync.com/139018/forms/115011.

Police Hold Open House



Officer Brian Clements

LEAH JONES/THE CURRENT

Continued from page 1

he had never considered working for a university police department before, but when he saw the job opening with the UMSL PD, he jumped at the opportunity. "I thought 'That's something different,'" he said. "My job is to actually go out there and interact with the students and be that point of contact between the police department and the rest of the community, as well as giving them helpful hints, safety presentations, [and] self-defense classes. I feel very fortunate... It was very exciting," Clements said. However, due to recent university-wide budget cuts, Clements is the only Crime Prevention and Community Involvement Officer.

During the open house, several students expressed an interest in self-defense classes. While Clements is certified to teach some self-defense classes, the classes are another budget-cut casualty, and students would have to pay \$12. Though the students at the

event said that they would be willing to pay \$12, other students may not be able to pay for the self-defense classes. Clements hopes to talk to some of the departments around campus to find a sponsor for the classes instead.

Clements also gave tours of the police department. Students first encountered Parking and Transportation Services, which deals with parking passes and parking violations. Tony Rosas has been working at UMSL for 19 years, and has been an Emergency Roadside Service Driver for Parking and Transportation Services for the past 16 years, making him the longest serving EM Driver.

Rosas is a mechanic by trade, but due to injury, eventually obtained a job working as an Emergency Roadside Service Driver. Rosas said, "I love it because I see a lot of kids that don't see things."

Next, students saw the temporary

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Warren Bellis: Clarinetist, Director, Ingenious

VICTORIA MODENESI
SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR

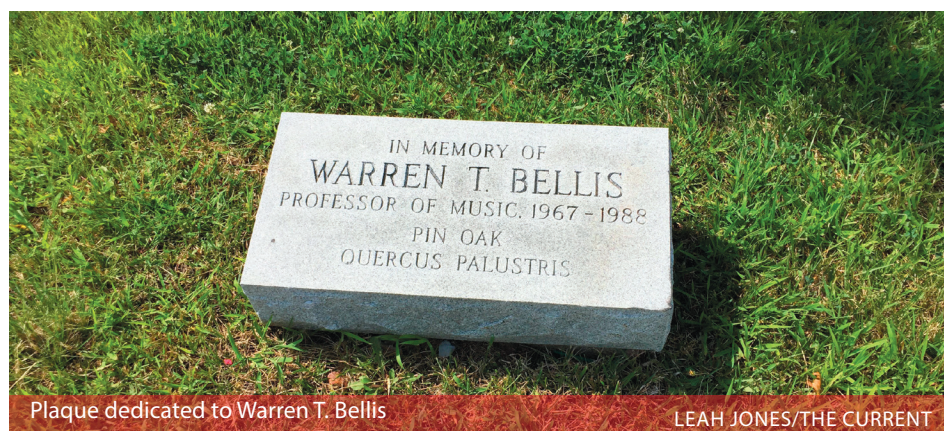
If you are a Pokémon Go player, or if you casually came across our informative Pokémon Go Campus Guide (*The Current*, August 23), you might have seen the commemorative plaque under a pine oak tree (*Quercus palustris*) near the Pokestop at the end of the path that takes you from the doors of the Millennium Student Center to the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. The plaque memorializes Warren T. Bellis. Not only was Bellis a professor of music at the University of Missouri-St. Louis from 1967 to 1988, but he was also the first full-time director of bands.

Bellis, an accomplished clarinetist, had clear goals and great expectations

for the band. Mike Olds, a former writer for *The Current*, explained that in 1968, due to the University of Missouri-St. Louis' growing campus, "the band offered not only professional training for those interested in going into the business, but served as an activity as well."

Olds also remarked that Bellis envisioned the band "serving as a public relations medium for the university." Bellis, after working at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and the University of Idaho, decided to return to his home state to become the first full-time director of bands at UMSL. At the time Bellis joined the university, the Touhill Performing Arts Center had not been built.

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Plaque dedicated to Warren T. Bellis

LEAH JONES/THE CURRENT

Alum Brightwell New Head Assistant Volleyball Coach

KAT RIDDLER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Haley Brightwell, alumna, graduated with her Masters in Business Administration (MBA) in the spring of 2016. She stayed around campus working at the Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) over the summer. The thought of staying and being a coach at the University of Missouri- St. Louis had not yet crossed her mind.

Brightwell attended Drake University for business her freshman year, then transferred to UMSL and played on the volleyball team as a redshirt. A redshirt is someone who practices with the team but does not play in games to save their four year eligibility. Brightwell continued her business undergraduate degree with an emphasis in marketing at UMSL. In order to play her fourth year on the team, Brightwell joined the MBA program at UMSL. The MBA program is two years, so Brightwell was asked to be a graduate assistant coach her second year in the program.

She thought she was spending her final summer at UMSL. “[Head Coach Ryan Young] had an assistant coach so it wasn’t even in my thoughts that he would need an assistant. So I thought I was done with UMSL at that time.”

Through the MBA program, Brightwell started working for Clear to Launch Business Solutions. Since she thought she was done with school, she



Head Assistant Coach Brightwell

COURTESY OF HALEY BRIGHTWELL

took a full-time position at the company over the summer while also working at the RWC. “I’m a huge fan of UMSL, obviously. I put a lot of time in. I’ve had so many jobs at UMSL I can’t even count. I feel super loyal to them. I’m also super thankful to UMSL. After I transferred here, I’ve had countless opportunities here. It’s really worked out for me,” Brightwell said. Coach Young reached out to her over the summer about the position since it looked like the other coach could not commit to the hours needed during the regular season and off season.

“It’s really tough on Ryan to hire someone who can put in part-time work, because he needs someone with

him all the time... I told him that I would have to talk to my other bosses first to make sure that it would work out.”

Brightwell’s more flexible schedule allowed her to be able to make the time commitments asked of her with the position. Brightwell started August 1 and was telling the team about her new position by the end of July. The team had a bonding day on August 14 and practice started the following day.

From her experience being on the team as a student, she learned a couple things about coaching. “It’s a lot of behind the scenes work. Essentially all you see is what they are putting in in the gym. But there is a lot going on behind

the scene. There is a lot of strategy that we have to think about when it comes to how we want to practice, what we want to focus on, what drills we need to work on,” Brightwell said. “There is a lot of strategy when it comes to understanding other teams. We have to watch a lot of film on the other teams to be prepared for the games. I didn’t see that when I was a player.”

Brightwell enjoyed playing more, but found out she also really enjoyed coaching. “I didn’t know if I would or not. It’s big picture. I can work with every member of the team compared to when I was an athlete and it was tough to focus on everyone else when I had to focus on myself.” Brightwell said, “But now, it’s my job. I really like that. I can focus on everyone and make sure we are all working together.”

As a student assistant coach Brightwell’s job coaching was different than the part-time position she currently holds. As an student assistant coach, Brightwell would help the coaches’ out by running drills and other little things she could take off of the coach’s plate to help the team. “I wasn’t as hands on as a student assistant, vocally, communicating with them and I didn’t have as much time to put in since I was a student...But now I can put in a lot more extra time outside of practice.”

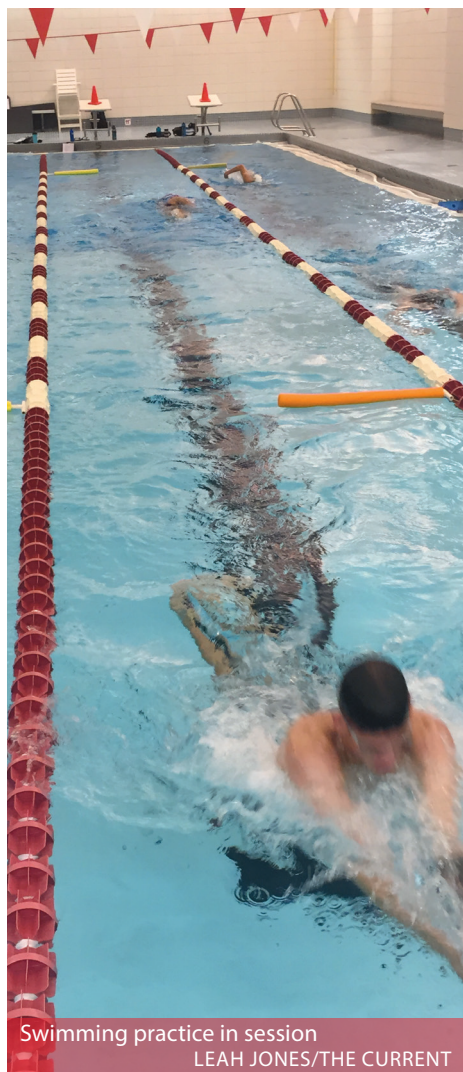
Usually volleyball plays most of its games in the fall semester, but they

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UMSL Triton Swimmers Make Waves In Reinstated Program

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also participated in the European Swimming Championships, Summer Universidad Games, World Military Games, and the International Swimming



Swimming practice in session
LEAH JONES/THE CURRENT

Federation (FINA) Swimming World Cup. Kuzvard said, “I have always loved what swimming was providing to me in return. Competitive swimming is one of the toughest sports out there, but the experience of conquering challenges, and becoming a better version of yourself is definitely worth of that.”

Kuzvard was a graduate assistant coach at Drury and an assistant coach at Ohio Northern before he came to UMSL. Coaching swimming is very important to him. “Well, some people participate in sports basically for fun, some constantly striving to challenge their minds and bodies. As a coach I am responsible for helping those involved and increasing our chance of succeeding,” Kuzvard said. “I build my coaching on strong relationships with our athletes, build on mutual trust and respect.”

Describing his coaching style Kuzvard observed, “I use variety of coaching styles, it depends on the specific situation. Here at UMSL I have been coaching both the men and women all together. That requires a slightly different approach for each individual student-athlete. However, the goal is to help our student-athletes to find ways how to balance the academics and sports in order to successfully reach their individual and team goals.”

A typical season consists of dual meets as well as additional meets fea-



Triton swim team at the Mark Twain building

LEAH JONES/THE CURRENT

turing three or more teams. The season is typically in the early spring semester, but practice starts in the fall semester.

There are a variety of competitions on the college level. There are individual competitions and relays with different strokes including freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, and butterfly. Distances can vary from 50 to 1,650 yards. Diving competitions are judged at one and three meter heights. Divers are awarded points to a team based on individual’s finishing score at an event.

Tomas Kuzvard is hopeful for this next season as he explained his goals for the team. Kuzvard said, “Building on the experience from the last year. Working closely with our Alumni, continuing to develop connections with local swim clubs, YMCA, communities, and High

Schools. With this year’s group of swimmers, I feel really inspired and feeling very positive about the development. We all need to be aware of the program’s beginning phase. We have only two seasons behind us, and there is still a very long way ahead of this program.”

The men’s and women’s swim team started their first full week of conditioning and routines this past week. Students are encouraged to set up an in-person meeting with Head Coach Tomas Kuzvard by calling 314-516-5752 or emailing kuzvardt@umsl.edu to get familiar with conditions to participate in the tryouts from August 31 to September 7. Tryouts take place September 6 through 9 at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. and September 9 through 16 at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Arts, Science, And All That Jazz At Lucas Hall Event



DANIEL STRAWHUN
OPINIONS EDITOR

The University of Missouri-St. Louis' College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) hosted its annual "Arts, Sciences, and All That Jazz" meet and greet on August 31. The event was held in the CAS office in Lucas Hall room 303.

A conga and keyboard duo was assembled in the hallway to greet students and faculty as they wandered in. The space had been transformed into a makeshift jazz lounge, complete with standing-height cocktail tables and pamphlets detailing the various programs and resources offered by CAS. CAS, which comprises 21 departments, is the largest at UMSL.

It includes among others the Department of Math and Computer Science, the Biology Department, the Music Department, the Philosophy Department, the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, and the English Department.

Sean Chism, the Student Retention Coordinator for CAS and the coordinating director of "Arts, Sciences, and All That Jazz" explained the purpose of the event. He said, "Arts, Sciences, and

All That Jazz" is our campus welcome for students, and so the point is to connect faculty, staff, and students on campus... Oftentimes students see us on campus and I think they think we're like aliens, or like we're not real people. So the point is really to just engage them in a very low power distance way, where they feel comfortable talking with us. We invite folks from around campus to come in and talk about their office, what they do... in a very casual, networking/mingling type of way."

There was, to be sure, plenty of mingling happening amongst students, faculty, and staff, especially in the main office of CAS. There, people held plates piled with pizza and drank from plastic cups of lemonade while they chatted. But the main attraction was the music that filled the space, emanating from a live jazz ensemble situated in the middle of the room.

Chism said, "The musicians are all UMSL students in our Fine Arts and Music Programs here on campus. We usually connect with Professor Jim Widner and Professor Jim Henry, and they work with us to find students who are the best of the best to come in and play for us. It's really cool because some-

times it's improv, so you will maybe see four or five students who may not have ever practiced together, and they all come together and play off the cuff... the band that's playing right now, they didn't practice together at all. They're just playing off the cuff."

But attendees would have never guessed that the music was completely improvised. The notes and transitions were smooth and deliberate; the band seemed relaxed and in control.

Readers who would like to know the names of the musicians who made the

"Arts, Sciences, and All That Jazz" event possible can contact Sean Chism at sjcq49@mail.umsl.edu.

Despite its name, Chism explained, "Arts, Sciences, and All That Jazz" is not limited to only jazz music. "It's called 'All That Jazz,' but it's not just about jazz," he said. "We've had hip-hop, a live DJ, soul music, folk, country, pop."

Students who are interested in learning more about CAS can visit the college's web page at umsl.edu/divisions/artscience/index.html or stop in to Lucas 303 during normal office hours.

Rams Leaving Has St. Louis Dome In A Pickle



TRAVONTE HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

The Dome at America's Center, formally known as the Edward Jones Dome, opened to the public 20 years ago. The stadium has entertained the likes of U2, N'Sync, and One Direction, and soon will host the Queen Bee herself—Beyoncé—on September 10. The Dome has also held college sports events and international soccer matches.

It even holds the record for the biggest indoor gathering in the history of the United States, when Pope John Paul II held mass in the Dome and it drew a crowd of 104,000 people. Billy Graham, over the course of four days, drew in his own crowd of over 200,000. Singers Michael W. Smith and Kirk Franklin performed at the event.

And of course it was once home to the St. Louis Rams, who left St. Louis and moved to Los Angeles in January 2016.

Negotiations with the Rams go back to 2012. The Convention and Vision Center (CVC) even offered to build a new 947 car garage with the Rams keeping game day revenue in a deal that would cost \$48 million. The Rams put their \$700 million dollar deal on the table. This would require most of the stadiums to be rebuilt, including a sliding roof and a four-sided scoreboard.

After years of negotiations with many different St. Louis organizations, including Governor Nixon himself, the CVC rejected the Rams' proposal for the Dome to be rebuilt. Not long after this, Stan Kroenke revealed to the league that he had purchased 60 acres in California, where he plans to build a new dome.

On January 4, the Rams announced their plans to leave for California. On January 12, the NFL approved their request to move. So the Rams left, leaving St. Louis \$144 million dollars in debt. This debt will not be paid off until

2021. So the question is, what to do with the Dome?

In other cities, most were able to attract other sports teams to their stadiums, bringing back more money for their cities. But in the similar case of the Houston Oilers leaving and becoming the Tennessee Titans, they had similar questions about what to do next.

The stadium currently hosts the non-professional Tigers as it has done for most of its history but losing a professional teams puts a strain on a city's economy.

In 2007 the then-mayor of Houston considered the stadium inadequate and made plans to build a new one, but nothing was done. The dome still stands in its current state.

The Dome in St. Louis could be used for future events. Beyoncé is supposed to be the next concert. So, could other entertainers soon be headlining the dome? The Dome has made quite a name for itself by hosting some of the biggest events in history. It could serve to host future entertainment events.

The America's Dome has yet to pay off its initial building cost, so that cost has to be dealt with. One plan that is on the table is to demolish the Dome to make more room for conventions and events. But with a building that has so much history, that does not seem like the best option.

Some plans call for action that would cost upwards of \$500 million. That is like having a car that you just bought get totaled, and it is not paid off yet so you have to use insurance money to help cover the cost. Currently the Dome hosts sporting events and concerts, but with the Rams gone, the future of the dome is uncertain.

So, the goal is for the Dome to serve future entertainment events and conventions, but will it serve in its current state? Or will it be rebuilt as a convention center? Only time will tell.

RENÉE ZELLWEGER
COLIN FIRTH
PATRICK DEMPSEY

One Little Bump **BRIDGET JONES'S BABY** One Big Question

SEPTEMBER 16



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Donald Trump: Can He Make America Great Again?

TRAVONTE HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

Donald Trump is loved by some and hated by others; many people have expressed plans to leave the country if he is elected. But what if he could “make American great again”? I think people like him because they can identify with him, which is strange considering he’s worth billions of dollars. Most people hate billionaires, because they are jealous of them and they feel like billionaires are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. But what if Donald Trump could fix that? What if it takes a billionaire to fix the declining middle class? Sometimes it takes an outsider to fix the real problems.

I am voting for Hillary Clinton,

not because I think Trump would ruin this country, but because it seems like the appropriate choice. She supports expanding the policies of Obama. She supports gay rights and she already has experience working in the White House, having served as First Lady and Secretary of State.

Donald Trump has no idea what he is doing. He used to be pro-choice, but since he began running for the Republican nomination, he has sided against abortion and has adopted a more conservative stance. He even believes that there should be some kind of punishment for people who abort babies.

I have already said that I would not vote for Donald Trump because he is unpredictable, but if I were to vote for him, here is how I would justify my

decision: The first point is that Donald Trump would run the country like a business. He is a very prominent and successful businessman, and although he has gone bankrupt a few times, he has always bounced back.

So, having experience in dealing with debt, he could possibly bounce the nation back from that trillion-dollar-plus deficit. It is a stretch because Trump has never been \$1 trillion in debt, but he has the experience and know-how to get himself out of debt and become richer than ever. Forbes estimates his current net worth at \$4.5 billion, but Trump himself claims he is worth \$10 billion. Whatever the number, it is not bad for someone who not long ago actually owed people money.

The next important issue is the

wall. While it might sound crazy and could possibly bankrupt the most powerful country on earth, it could prevent the smuggling of drugs and illegal immigrants across the border, which would, in effect, bring jobs back to actual Americans and prevent illegal drugs from entering the U.S. Americans would no longer have to compete with non-citizens who are taking jobs from them by doing the same work for less compensation. The wall could also prevent dangerous figures from gaining entry into the U.S.

While they currently aren’t a problem, some of the richest and most dangerous drug lords may try to escape persecution in their county by entering

Continued online at
thecurrent-online.com

GUEST EDITORIAL

UMSL Faculty Pushes To Unionize On Campus

SARAH LACY
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF
ANTHROPOLOGY
MICHAEL SMITH
ADJUNCT ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR

The fall 2016 semester is just beginning, and we are celebrating the Labor Day Holiday. Students are likely focused on getting their textbooks and nailing down their financial aid; however, many students may not be aware of another aspect of our campus that is likely to impact the learning experiences they will have at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

All classes of faculty—adjunct instructors, non-tenure track professors, and tenure-track/tenured professors—are fighting to exercise their right to unionize. We want a union because through years of budget crises and state-level funding cuts, the percentage of your tuition dollars that goes to the professors you interact with daily has been decreasing.

•Adjunct instructors are not paid a living wage. In the college of Arts and Science, they earn between \$3,000-\$3,300 per class per semester that they teach, and they have no guarantee that their contract will be renewed the next semester. They often must teach courses at multiple universities to cobble together an income. This limits the time they can devote to your course and to you as an individual. They are the most exploited class of faculty in academia, and adjuncts at other local universities (e.g., Washington University, St. Louis University, St. Charles Community College, St. Louis Community College) have already voted to unionize.

•Non-tenure track (NTT) faculty will never be given the protection of tenure, an important feature of many full time faculty members’ contracts, which protects their right to pursue rigorous research free from the constraints

of university politics. Many NTT faculty members are also denied sufficient resources to conduct academic research. NTT faculty are paid considerably less than tenure-track faculty and must teach additional courses despite often having equivalent qualifications. Their contracts are yearly, and they can be let go at any time without just cause. Their precarity affects whether the courses you need in order to complete your degree will be available in future semesters.

•Tenure track faculty suffer from severe salary compression, which essentially punishes them for staying at the institution—they go without a raise or cost-of-living adjustment every year that they could have gotten it if they went to another university. The mean assistant professor salary at UMSL is nearly \$7,000 lower than the national average for four-year state universities (The Chronicle of Higher Education 2014 figures), and faculty in the social sciences and humanities are paid considerably less than even the campus average. Being a professor is no longer an upper middle class profession; however, our chancellor earned \$319,802 last year—more than five times the average salary of an assistant professor and almost eight times higher than the average NTT.

•We have had a hiring freeze for two years, so positions that were previously unfilled have remained empty, and faculty who are leaving for better paying positions are not being replaced. This limits student course options and increases the service responsibilities of those faculty who stay, limiting the attention they can devote to students’ needs.

•UMSL suffers from minimal shared governance between the administration and faculty. All personnel issues (e.g., pay, benefits, working conditions) are forbidden from being discussed by members at Faculty Senate. Students

and non-member attendees cannot even speak at meetings of committees of the Faculty Senate. This was most stark at the budget committee meeting last spring where over 100 employees and students attended but were not allowed to comment on the proposed budget cuts, which were made without our input.

This is not just about salary. This is about the fact that our working conditions and hence the educational culture of our institution are not under our control. Part of the budget alignment last school year included increasing faculty teaching loads without increasing compensation or implementing a mechanism to fight that increased workload. Benefits such as health insurance at retirement were cut. Human resources has been mostly outsourced to the UM system from the UMSL campus.

Unionization is about representation and equity. As a member of a larger university system, UMSL is at the bottom of the totem pole. UMSL receives the least funding per student, yet has the poorest student body with the greatest need and is the most ethnically diverse campus.

We consistently have the smallest representation on system-wide committees, though we have the same size student body as the University of Missouri-Kansas City and more students than the Missouri University of Science and Technology. This is about fighting the already vast amounts of inequality on and off our campus.

What we want:

We want faculty to hold a vote to unionize—a right enshrined in US law. Missouri law requires the administration of the University of Missouri system to determine and implement the details of our election process. We hope that they will give us a quick and fair process that follows the National Labor Review Board’s guidelines:

•The right to file for election when 30 percent of eligible employees sign a union card declaring their support

•An election administered by a neutral third party

•Voting via mail-in election ballots

We have yet to receive word from the UM system regarding which process they would support. In fact, the only response we have received has been two letters from Interim Provost Christopher Spilling asking faculty to “take all factors into consideration when thinking of [their] own future and that of the institution” with regards to unionizing. The tone of this statement was taken by many as threatening. It is illegal to fire employees for attempting to unionize, but employees without stable contracts do not need to be fired in order to lose their jobs. Their contracts are simply not renewed. But we will not be intimidated.

We teach because we are passionate about generating knowledge and helping our students achieve their goals by becoming more engaged members of their communities. Our passion is being exploited though. We are being paid less, our benefits are dwindling, our working conditions are degrading, and we are being told to accept all of this because we ‘love what we do.’ We think that if students knew what the UM system expected out of their faculty, they would be outraged.

We hope you will support us in demanding an election process from the UM system, so that we can hold a vote on forming a union. This could include writing to the system administration, holding solidarity rallies, or merely telling your faculty you stand with them. We are celebrating a holiday that honors the history of the Labor Movement in our country and internationally, and yet our rights to unionize are being dismissed. We hope you will stand with us to build a better community at UMSL.

Alum Brightwell New Head Assistant Volleyball Coach

Continued from page 5

but they play skirmish games and tournaments that do not count towards their overall record in the spring. Volleyball recruits during the spring semester as well. Brightwell helped with recruiting in the spring last year and found it to be tough. They recruit from club volleyball tournaments, which is different than high school volleyball. Tournaments consist of about 50 courts

of volleyball being played for about six to eight hours and coaches have to observe and evaluate skill level that is right for the school. Because of UMSL's size, the women's volleyball is Division II.

The volleyball team has 18 members, eight of which are new to UMSL's team this year.

September 2 marks the beginning of the women's volleyball team. Since it is the beginning of the season and

they cannot study other teams' film before the games, they are focusing on their own strengths for the tournament games.

"I'm looking forward to most the changes that Ryan and I are making to mentality," Brightwell said. "Our physical skills were good, but because our mental game wasn't strong we weren't very good as a team. It is my role to improve our mindset." Brightwell hopes to accomplish this with what she created called Team Talks. This is Brightwell's first time teaching the mental focus and positive mindset to players and she is very eager to see the results of her labor.

Brightwell wants to remind players to be conscious of being able to go to coaches outside of practice. If a player is having problems either with their game or other matters, Brightwell wants to know what it is so she can help.

Check out their full schedule at the UMSL athletics page.



Bellis Honored On Campus



Plaque dedicated to Warren T. Bellis

LEAH JONES/THE CURRENT

Continued from page 4

Since the band did not have an appropriately conditioned place to rehearse, Bellis had to improvise techniques that would allow the band to be able to play harmoniously and to listen to each other.

In "The History of the UMSL Band," a compilation on the first 50 years of the ensemble, Sandy Bogue, an alumnus and former member, recalls that the band was small. The size of the band, combined with the poor acoustics of the handball courts in the Gymnasium building, generated problems, especially with wind instruments. However, Bellis skillfully sorted the issue out.

Bogue said, "What he finally settled on was tag teams. Some played on one piece, others on another. Not everyone was on the same 'team' for the different songs. He had to post a list every day

showing who was on what team and when the band would be practicing the song. That was when a lot of trumpet players began playing secondary instruments."

After a brief absence as band director, Bellis returned in 1980 to lead the band in "Hail to the Chief" during a visit from President Jimmy Carter.

During that same year and under his direction, concerts were held in the auditorium of Marillac Hall.

Bellis passed away in 1994, at the age of 71. UMSL and the Department of Music honored Warren Bellis for several years with the Warren Bellis Clarinet and Saxophone Festival, held annually at the Touhill Performing Arts Center until 2013.

To read "The History of the UMSL Band" online, visit <http://tinyurl.com/j28wulr>.

Police Hold Open House

Continued from page 4

holding cells where detainees sit while officers finish paperwork to either release them or transfer them to a different facility. Though the temporary holding cells are not set up to keep people overnight, the room was set up to take fingerprints. "We do things old-school. We still ink fingerprint," Clements laughed. "The ink takes forever to wash off."

Students also toured the roll call room, where officers sit around a round table and discuss current events on campus. After they visited the sergeants' and detective's offices, students finally saw the Emergency Operations Center. The Emergency Operations Center is equipped with telephones and hotlines in case of an emergency where many people may be calling the police department at the same time. Hotline operators can field the telephone calls and collect information while the dispatch center sends help where it is needed.

Chief of Police Forrest L. Van Ness, who joined the department in 2010 after working with the St. Louis County Police Department, spoke about what he hoped the event would achieve. "It's

about community at the core... It's just another part of community policing. If we talk to each other, then we don't make stuff up about each other," he said.

"The responsibility that we have extends beyond municipal policing. With municipal policing, at the end of the day, young adults go back to their parents. Here they stay. So we have a responsibility to parents that trust us with their adult children [to] foster an environment that allows them to grow and mature and gain the education that they want."

Clements agreed and said "We're here – and we're really here for the students to make sure that they can get their education and make sure that they can get back out there in the real world safely. And we really do want to kind of develop that friendly relationship with them. We're not here to try to get everyone in trouble." Despite difficult budget cuts and being open 24 hours per day, seven days per week including holidays, the UMSL PD does want to keep students safe, with all of their ocular organs intact.

For more information on the UMSL PD, visit safety.umsl.edu/police/. For emergencies, call 314-516-5155.

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