Students from Western Cape Visit UMSL, Discuss Tuition Increases in South Africa with SGA Senators

Lori Dresner
News Editor

A group of students from the University of the Western Cape in South Africa visited the University of Missouri–St. Louis campus last week to tour the university and discuss the increasing cost of attending universities in South Africa. Student protests erupted last September in South Africa after the government proposed a tuition fee increase of up to 8 percent for 2017. Students began calling for free education following this proposal. Government subsidies, student fees, and private sources are universities’ three main sources of income in South Africa.

In fall 2015, student protests ensued after tuition fee increases between 10 and 12 percent were proposed. A #FeesMustFall protest was started by students in response to the proposal. President Jacob Zuma later announced in October 2015 that fees would not increase in 2016, according to the Washington Post.

The SGA representatives also spoke with the Western Cape visitors about some of the current issues that are specific to UMSL. SGA President Kathryn Loucks, senior, biology, and SGA senator Joey Dordoni, freshman, anthropol-ogy, discussed the problem of space constraints for student groups and organizations at UMSL.

“I think the biggest thing we hear right now is that we don’t have designated student spaces for different identities for students,” said Loucks. She proceeded to talk about the need for safe spaces on campus where students can feel comfortable expressing their points of view.

“We really need to find a solution to where we can give students a space where they feel safe,” she said.

“And it’s difficult because once you start making spaces for one identity or one organization then you have to start doing that for all of them,” she continued.

Loucks and Dordoni also discussed the difficulty of increasing SGA’s visibility on UMSL’s campus due to the primarily commuter student body.

“Sort of an issue that we have—and it sounds like you guys on your campus and your student government really has a place and a lot of people paying attention to it—our student government here has less of that. I’ve talked to students before that didn’t even know we had a...”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

LEAH JONES
Features Editor

New environments, new languages, new foods, new cultures, and new customs compound the already stressful transition from high school into college for international students. However, through International Students Incorporated (ISI), international students at the University of Missouri–St. Louis can meet, chat, and form a community with other international students and local St. Louisans over the manna of many college students’ existence—good food.

ISI held one of its free lunches in the Fireside Lounge of the Millennium Student Center (MSC) on January 25. The group works under the umbrella of the Catholic Newman Center on campus, according to Mort Whitman, the Campus Minister for ISI. The organization partners with local churches in order to connect international students at UMSL, Maryville University, Lindenwood University, Washington University, and St. Louis University with food and community. “We basically are what they call a Christian service organization,” Whitman said. “We are here to serve international students and help them out.”

The First Baptist Church of Ferguson supplied the money for the free Subway sandwiches in the Fireside Lounge on Wednesday, but other local churches have paid for the food or supplied it themselves in the past depending on the location of the event. Patryk Golinski, freshman, computer science, and UMSL swimmer from Poland, said that he tries to attend all of the free lunches. “It’s very nice because there is a lot of people from other countries,” he said. “You can talk about just anything. There is a very nice community here.”

“It’s an opportunity where they can communicate with each other and so on, but then also if they have to rush, if they have to go to class and stuff like that, it’s something that they are able to grab so that they don’t miss lunch,” said Whitman.

Though ISI supplies students with food, they also offer other services to international students, including trips around the city, conferences, and Bible study for interested students. Through their program Professional Partners, ISI also matches students with local St. Louisans who work in their fields of study. “We match them and they get invited into the person’s business place to see how [they do] things, dealing with business ethics and so on, which you don’t normally get elsewhere,” Whitman said.

Whitman also serves as a mentor to several of the students, guiding them in areas as diverse as helping students choose their majors, find living arrangements, and navigate through more dire circumstances as well. “I am a trained hospital chaplain, and I went through my CPE [Clinical Pastoral Education] here in St. Louis. I’m trained in interventions, too. I come as a package. And it’s very important. Students can go through terrible problems,” Whitman said. “When crises come in a student’s life who is far away from home [and] has no family here, it is devastating.”

Whitman cited several instances of students who have been in need of help.
Yesterday, at a hot dog stand, 100 people bought a single hot dog. Among these 100 people, 80 added mustard, 85 added ketchup, 80 added relish, and 90 added onions. What is the least number of hot dogs which had all four toppings? Email your solutions to covertdj@umsl.edu.

Math Problem of the Week

On December 14, information security officer Mark Monroe sent a mass email to the student body regarding the OneClass extension, a malware that steals its victims’ passwords and attempts to send messages through MyGateway, tempting others to download the malware. A warning on the MyGateway site reads, “Do not install the OneClass extension in Chrome. A phishing attack is asking students to install it. Installing this plugin may result in identity theft for you and your classmates.” It is advised that any students who erroneously downloaded the extension immediately uninstall the software and reset their SSO ID passwords.

Digital Signage Dimensions Change

As of January 11, the Campus Life digital signage image size has changed to 1340 pixels x 754 pixels in the Millennium Student Center (MSC), Oak Hall, Provincial House, and the Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC). Templates in the new size are available for Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and Adobe InDesign. For those who have already submitted signage to run at the previous size, 1551 pixels x 990 pixels, the Office of Campus Life will continue to run those signs as is, but all future submissions must match the new size. Visit umsl.edu/DigitalSignage for more information.

NEWS BRIEFS

Beware of OneClass Chrome Extension

Download
The following is a series of daily crime and incident reports issued by the University of Missouri-
St. Louis Police Department between January 20 and January 26.
January 20: At 11:18 a.m. an UMSL student turned in a wallet found at the Metrolink North Sta-
tion to UMSL PD. Later that day, UMSL PD verified a sex offender registration.
January 21: At 12:01 a.m. a single-vehicle crash occurred on Natural Bridge Road at West Drive. There were no injuries; a tree was uprooted during the crash.
January 22: No incidents were reported on this date.
January 23: At 12:55 a.m. UMSL PD and Residential Life responded to a drug violation at Oak Hall involving an odor of marijuana.
January 24: No incidents were reported on this date.
January 25: At 8:30 a.m. a driver's license found at Mansion Hill Apartments was turned in to UMSL PD for safekeeping; the owner was notified. At 12:30 p.m. an UMSL student reported that their car parked in the Millennium South Parking Garage had been struck and damaged. At 12:07 p.m. UMSL PD assisted the Des Peres Police Department in locating a student at the Social Sciences & Business Building (SSB). At 7:22 p.m. an UMSL student was transported from Clark Hall to the hospital after falling earlier in the day.
January 26: At 12:31 a.m. a credit card found in SSB was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping. At 8 a.m. an UMSL staff member at the Science Learning Building reported injuring their arm; the staff member sought personal medical attention. At 11:56 a.m. a checkbook found at the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping; the owner was notified. At 10:50 a.m. an UMSL student reported that their car parked in the West Drive Garage had been struck and damaged. At 4 p.m. a phone lost in the Recreation and Wellness Center was reported to UMSL PD; the phone was found before the report had been completed.

What’s Current Wednesdays
Peril or Promise: Will the Trump Presidency Transform the Supreme Court?
Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2:00 PM
MSC Century Room C

Join The Current and discussion leader Barbara Graham, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, for a lively, student-centered discussion. During the 2016 presidential campaign, both Clinton and Trump promised to appoint Justices to the Supreme Court who would carry out their ideological agendas. With his presidency, will President Trump be able to nominate Justices who will shift the Court? Will it affect controversial issues such as abortion, a Muslim ban or registry, limitations on immigration, LGBTQ rights, voting rights, the use of torture or increased government surveillance? In this session, we will discuss a variety of important factors that help us understand to what extent a sitting President can transform the Supreme Court.
Science Fiction and New-Age Trauma Therapy: “The OA”
LEAH JONES
FEATURES EDITOR

P ARTSCIENCE FICTION DRAWING FROM NEW-AGE TRAUMA THERAPY AND PART MYSTERY/THRILLER, “THE OA” DEFINITELY HAS A STUFFY DEBUT ON NETFLIX. THE SERIES, WHICH CURRENTLY HAS RECEIVED EIGHT OUT OF TEN STARS ON THE INTERNATIONAL MOVIE DATABASE (IMDB) AND A HALF OUT OF FIVE STARS ON NETFLIX. BOTH REVIEW WEBSITES CALL IT “WEIRD” AND WITH GOOD REASON. “THE OA” FOLLOWS THE STORY OF PRAIRIE JOHNSON (BRIT MARLING), A YOUNG, BLIND WOMAN WHO REAPPEARS AFTER HAVING DISAPPEARED SEVEN YEARS EARLIER. DURING THE TIME THAT SHE WAS GONE, SHE DID NOT ONLY REGAIN HER SIGHT BUT ALSO ACQUIRED MYSTERIOUS SCARS AND REFERS TO HERSELF AS “THE OA.” HER ADOPTED PARENTS (SCOTT WILSON AND ALICE KRIGE) REFUSE TO INSTITUTIONALIZE HER IN A PSYCHIATRIC WARD, THOUGH THEY ARE TORN ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT TO MEDICATE HER WHEN SHE BEGINS TO HAVE TERRIFYING DREAMS AND SNEAK OUT OF THE HOUSE. THE SHOW STARTS OFF WITHOUT MANY SCIENCE FICTION ELEMENTS, AS THE OA TELLS HER STORY TO A GROUP OF LOCAL MISFITS. VIEWERS LEARN ABOUT HER CAPTURE AND INHUMANITY BY HAP (JASON ISAACS), A SCIENTIST STUDYING NEW EXPERIENCES, OR NDE’S, PRAIRIE AND THE OTHER CAPTIVES WORK THROUGH THE TRAUMA OF INCARCERATION BY HAP WITH A SERIES OF MOVEMENTS WHICH THEY RECEIVE FROM “THE OTHER SIDE” IN ORDER TO GAIN ACCESS TO ANOA AND PROCESS SOME OF THEIR TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES.

SOME OF THE CHARACTERS ARE A BIT PREPARED, FOLLOWING WELL-TREAD STEREOTYPES: THE MAD SCIENTIST; THE HYSTERICAL MOTHER WHO HAS DONE SOMETHING SHE IS ASHAMED OF; THE VIOLENT BULLY WITH A GOOD HEART; THE Hysterical mother who has done something she is ashamed of; the intelligent kid with a good heart (Patrick Gibson); the smart and hardworking kid who overcame adversity and earned a college scholarship (Brandon Perea); and the quiet weed-smoking kid who just needs to cope with the death and absence of his parents (Brendan Meyer). Some of the characters are a little less predictable and surprising, notably the uptight teacher who comes around earlier and therefore has more time to develop as a character struggling with her own loss (Phyllis Smith). The representation of a transgender teenager (Ian Alexander) also adds some much-needed variety.

Fundamentally, the story deals with trauma, the importance of being able to tell one’s story and create coherence in one’s experience in trauma recovery (and by extension, the importance of being believed), and the recent attention to bodily movement in trauma recovery. However, the true between dimensions, the absurd movements, and the fact that “THE OA” turns out to be an acronym for the “original angel” make the story feel contrived and more than a little ridiculous at times.

The show feels so ridiculous and removed from viewers in part due to the fact that many viewers may not have enough background knowledge about some of the recent work in trauma therapy from which the show is drawing. Movements such as somatic experiencing move away from the traditional psychotherapy and talk therapy with which most viewers will be familiar. Dr. Peter Levine pioneered some of the work in this area in his 1997 book “Waking the Tiger,” in which he explores the role of the body in trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and the role of bodily movement in releasing and healing trauma. In “THE OA,” the emphasis on the strange bodily movements and moving back and forth between dimensions, reflects this recent trend in trauma therapy. However, since this is a developing field in psychology, laymen viewers may not know about some of this work, making the show somewhat inaccessible.

Additionally, the show demonstrates some conflicting views on disability. Hap trusts Prairie more than the other captives because she is blind and grants her some power, which troubles some of the existing narratives of blindness as an inherent lack of power. However, Prairie is portrayed as better and more powerful when she regains her vision, further perpetuating the idea that blindness is inherently a negative thing, instead of seeing it as a variation in human form and function. The questions about whether or not Prairie should be institutionalized or medicated further highlight some problematic socially constructed views about mental disabilities and the value of—and stigma around—things like medication. However, the show challenges some of the stereotypes around PTSD specifically, since the traumatized characters in the show commit the least violence.

Overall, “THE OA” was not a complete swing-and-a-miss. It was entertaining enough for me to finish the show, though I was not so enthralled that I found myself rushing to get back to my computer either. It also seemed to tailor itself to an audience with more specific background knowledge, which I think could have alienated some viewers. While it challenged some stereotypes and problematic social views on physical and mental disabilities, it also engaged in some of those same stereotypes as well.
**Politics, Promises, and Protests: Women’s March on St. Louis**

by LEAH JONES

*Features Editor*

The day after Donald Trump addressed a crowd of disputed size at his inauguration on January 20 saying that, “You [the American people] will never be ignored again,” millions of women around the world, including in St. Louis, tested this declaration by taking to the streets to send "a bold message of resistance and determination" to the incoming administration, according to the website of the Women’s March on St. Louis.

Alison Dreith, Executive Director of NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri and University of Missouri–St. Louis political science alumna, attend- ed the march in St. Louis. "Trump’s words in his inaugural speech mean nothing, as we can see by his continued tweets, actions, and cabinet appointments. He has promised to punish women, immigrants, and Muslims. If he wants to transfer power back to the American people, he would not be appointing million-aires to put our bodies on the line to dismantle racism." said. "America is not the bleak picture he paints. This country is what number was closer to 20,000. Marchers carried signs and chant- ed slogans as they progressed east down Market Street from Union Station to Luther Ely Smith Square under the Arch. After the largely peaceful march, participants attend- ed a rally and an action fair.

Kat Wheeling, senior, communi- cations and media studies, also at- tended the St. Louis march. She said that she did not attend the march to oppose Trump though. "I’m a con- cerned citizen because I care about the well-being of my fellow citizens, in particular those less fortunate who are facing financial hardships or critical healthcare concerns," said Wheeling, who cited the cutting of federal programs and the resulting diminished social safety nets, her local writer and educator, Marsha Caradine-Randall, Missouri State Representative for District 76, U.S. Senator, Claire McCaskill; as- sistant professor of philosophy at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Sarah Bedard, Saba Fatima; neurologist and feminist activist, Margaret Flowing Johnson, 8th grade activist, Laurynn; Planned Parenthood representative and member of the Teen Advocates for Sexual Health program, Macy; said of the Fireside Lounge, "I kind of consider this is like the campus living room. It’s just like somebody’s home, and to offer that to them, it would be a great thing if we just had a place where students could [go] and use their own language, to be able to be able to justchat in their own tongue, that would be a great thing," he said.

ISI also provides counseling ser- vices for international students, but Whitman said that he came up with the idea of a student lounge as a man was killed by a drunk driver, leaving his family without his support. ISI helped the family. "It’s very multifaceted in that way. We try to provide as much intervention as possible," Whitman said.

ISI started on UMSL’s cam- pus in 2009, but the organization formed in 1953 after the Korean War. Whitman said that at that time there were more than 37,000 international students living in the United States, and that number has since grown to over a million, with 8,000 living in St. Louis alone. ISI needed

"It is the work of white women and men to put our bodies on the line and show up for communities of color moving forward if we ever want to dismantle racism."

he would not be appointing million-aires and billionaires to his cabinet," she said. "America is not the bleak picture he paints. This country is already great, and the resistance to his presidency will continue to show him that."
The Attendance Problem: The Missing UMSL Sports Fan

LANCE JORDAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Missouri-St. Louis has many stories to be proud of. In the fall of 2018, the Recreation and Wellness Center (RCWC) opened its doors, adding approximately 35,000 square feet of space for open recreation, intramural sports, and wellness education. In addition, Division I UMSL’s business program in the top 3 percent of business schools in the nation. U.S. News and World Report has continued to rank UMSL’s international business program among America's top 20 for the past 14 years. However, this status does not apply to the Tritons’ athletic department. UMSL is one of Missouri’s two Division I universities, along with the University of Missouri-Columbia. UMSL’s athletic department is led by Coach Brady, who enters his 18th season in 2018.

The university is known for its sports teams. In 2018, UMSL had the second largest sports budget in the Missouri Valley Conference (MVC). In addition, UMSL is known for its intercollegiate athletic department, which consists of past and current teams. In 2018, UMSL had the fifth-highest attendance at major college football games in the Midwest—number four in intercollegiate athletic department, and number five at Missouri Valley Conference (MVC) games.

The Tritons beat out several other teams in a competitive division. Among the top 25 leaders in attendance at major college football games, UMSL ranked sixth in the Great Lakes Division II conference. The Tritons beat out several other teams in a competitive division. Among the top 25 leaders in attendance at major college football games, UMSL ranked sixth in the Great Lakes Division II conference.

Triton basketball stumbles against Rockhurst

The University of Missouri-St. Louis men’s and women’s basketball teams were defeated by the Rockhurst Hawks in their Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) games on January 26 in Kansas City, Missouri. The Triton women’s team battled the Hawks last season, but fell to their opponents by seven points, with a 68-77 loss. The Triton men’s team subsequently took a nine-point lead over the Hawks with a final score of 86-77.

The Triton women’s team had a strong start, leaving the first quarter just three points behind with a score of 13-10. Jordan Fletcher, senior, business management, was able to get the last point of the quarter with a layup. The Tritons and Hawks continued battling in the second quarter, but it was the Hawks who walked out with a six-point lead at 31-27 to close the second quarter. The Hawks held a five point lead over the Tritons during the third quarter, still making it anyone’s game. The Hawks had a five point lead over the Tritons during the third quarter, still making it anyone’s game.

The Hawks secured two free throws in the last 34 seconds to secure the victory. The Hawks gave a strong showing. Joseph English, senior, business management, led the team with 20 points, and 15 assists. The Hawks turned the ball over 14 times, but still managed to hold the Tritons to just 36 points.

The Triton men gave a strong showing. Lance Jordan, senior, education, had 19 points and 13 rebounds. The Tritons held the Hawks to just 36 points, but still managed to hold them to just 36 points. The Tritons were led by sophomore forward Kevin Swanson, senior, liberal studies, who had 16 points and 9 rebounds.

Following these defeats, the Triton men and women both took on William Jewell College on January 28, and will be back in action February 2 against Illinois Springfield. To follow these matchups and other Triton sports stop by umsltritons.com.
When Scientists Stop Doing Science: The Doomsday Clock

NATHAN WATSON

When Saturday morning, one of Facebook science author Lawrence Kraus's standing next to a much more influential and not so much a scientific figure of the world. Any scientist can tell you that. In 1945, it is easier for the lines between science and nonscience to be welcomed is a matter for philosophy. Discussions. Perhaps we've reached the point of no return, and our time would be best spent answering the question “what now?”
Missouri Marches in International Movement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

by the incoming administration. “I am 
very afraid,” she said. “I’m afraid of a 
line for you, but I must ask. Are you 
within your body on the line for the 
stuff I want?” She asked, “Until each and 
every one of us can say that, Yes, we 
‘can,’ until this fight, our women’s 
fight, assures that the most vulner 
able, most targeted, and most forgot 
ten of us can access the resources, 
opportunities, and protections of the most privileged of us, we must 
continue to resist.”
Talve also called for women to 
support each other during the Ferguson up 
story of Exodus, in which two Egyp 
tian midwives, Shifra and Puah, used 
their privilege and power to disobey 
the orders of an evil pharaoh to save 
the infant Moses. “We are women 
and allies of all faiths and races and 
gender identities, people of all 
ethnicities, and like those midwives, 
we are determined to use every bit of 
privilege and power that we have to 
stand together,” Talve said. “White 
 supremacy and patriarchy hurt all of 
us, and I vow in front of all of every 
one of you, and all of our allies, to 
work with millions of other women across 
the country that women’s rights are human 
rights.”
Wheeling did not attend the ac 
tion fair, but she said that she in 
tends to remain active in political 
and social issues. “Longer term here 
in Missouri, we need to select and 
support strong, viable candidates 
that is a key reason I showed up on 
the march. “Because Missouri is the third 
most restrictive state in the country for 
abortion access, with one remaining 
clinic, which is located in St. Lou 
is. With a hostile state government 
and a new president that has prom 
ised to punish women, we wanted to 
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Where Are UMSL’s Sports Fans?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

college on a based combination of 
aademic and social experiences. If 
we continue to be one dimensional, 
it really limits the number of stud 
ents who will enroll at our institu 
tion,” Byrd said.

Along with losing the commut 
er campus perception, Byrd and uni 
versity officials are concerned that 
many families, and I promise if they 
register you, they are going to have 
to think of how to register. I think 
this is forming a healthy envi 
ronment between us.”

In response to Trump’s promise 
not to put people on the line for 
positions, Wheeling said, “There is a flip 
side to not ignoring a particular group. 
The flip side is to pay attention and 
listen. That is a key reason I showed up 
on Saturday.”

When asked if they notice more 
audience attendance at other uni 
versities, the group said, “Absolutely. 
Undoubtedly the attendance was 
upwell, and the team felt the support 
from other sports teams is also dis 
appointing to the swim team, which 
they hope will change. “Not even athletes from other UMSL athletic teams attended, not like when basketball and volleyball teams are playing.”

Like I suspected when starting 
the story, athletes have noticed the 
lack of a turnout in stands during 
sporting events. It seems that at 
UMSL, we are currently seeing a di 
vide between the general students— 
residential and commuter—and 
student athletes.

As the team put it, “We don’t think this is forming a healthy envi 
ronment between us.”

Players personally, I also believe we 
could do more to market the games 
and give students an incentive to 
participate (spirit contests, food, 
give-a-ways, etc.),” Byrd said.

Gabriel Jimenez, freshman, en 
genie, is a swimmer who I in 
terviewed for the October 30 edition of The Current. At that time, 
the Mexico native held three individual 
records at UMSL and two event wins against 
Maryville University and William Jewell College at a tri meet.

Since then, Jimenez and the 
rest of the swim team have traveled to 
San Diego for Lindsey’s 
swim meet. “I think that the 
match itself 
was 
worth 
the 
effort,” he 
said. “I hope [the 
outcome of this past 
election has 
spurred 
me to 
throw 
my hat back in the 
race.”

Jimenez agreed that the polit 
ical activism sparked by the march 
should not end now that the march 
es are over. “Moving forward, peo 
ple should just stay engaged. [They] should make sure they vote. The 
moving forward and 
the 
people 
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