ANNOUNCEMENTS

Registration for fall classes
Registration is currently open for all returning, transfer and new students. Classes begin Aug. 18 at 8 a.m. The last day for enrollment is Aug. 24.

INSIDE

Who is this man, and why should you care?
Get to know UM-St. Louis' chancellor and his plans for the 2008-2009 school year.

What's so funny about an UMSL education?
"On Humor and Laughter" is being offered this fall. Check out the other new courses you can sign up for now.

We think you should get involved
Find out what's in it for you if you get involved in organizations and campus activities.

ON THE WEB

Web poll results:
What should UMSL's new mascot be?

A male character.
A female character.
A trident.
A goose.
No mascot; they are silly.

This week's question:
How involved are you?

INDEX

What's Current 2
CrimeLine 2
Opinions 4-5
Puzzles 6-7
Classifieds 12
Cartoons/Puzzles 13

Stay Current with this week's weather

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Weather predictions from www.weather.com
The suspects were transported to the police station, and the books were recovered. The suspects are currently awaiting arraignment and the attorneys have been notified.

Lauren Jones was last seen entering the bookstore without paying. The suspect then proceeded to enter the store and select several books. The suspect was eventually caught by security personnel and arrested.

The victim reported that she discovered that someone had entered her car, opened the glove box and center console area and all of her valuables, including her wallet and car keys, were gone. She also discovered that someone had entered her apartment and took her laptop computer and cell phone.

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The victim has notified the police and is working with them to identify and apprehend the suspect.

The suspect was finally arrested and the books were recovered. The suspect was transported to the police station. The victim's wallet and cell phone were also recovered.

The victim was finally arrested and charged with theft of property. The victim's wallet and cell phone were also recovered.

The victim was finally arrested and transported to the police station. The victim's wallet and cell phone were also recovered.

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New courses include witchcraft, leadership, humor, death and everything in between.

By: JESSICA KEIL

Eric Wiland, the professor of a new class being offered at the Pierce-Laddro Colleges, this fall titled "On Humor and Laughter," must have been joking when he first responded to the question: Did you come up with the idea for this new course? "I get the idea for the course from President Shat, in all his infinite wisdom, who showed on the importance of humor and laughter in our daily lives, as evidenced by his daily one-liners, such as 'Randy is the questioned soul. Our children learning?' and 'Here's the question: are we getting out of the business. Too many OB-GYNs aren't able to prioritize their love with women across this country,'" said Wiland, associate professor and director of Graduate Studies at UM-St. Louis.

Wiland is probably the only professor who could get away with such a response, and in his case it is hard to make an argument that it was a serious answer would have even been inappropriate. "This is the first time I've taught the course," Wiland later explained. "I actually knew very little about the philosophy of humor and laughter, but I want to learn about it, and I thought that working through some of the material with Honors students would be revealing." When Wiland's new course is only being offered at the Honors College on South Campus, just Honors students can register for the class.

"A class Wiland describes "We are the only one they will ever get at UMSL." Essentially, Wiland was kicking about the "D+" part of the "D" part. But of course he isn't. Honors college students should consider themselves lucky this fall semester to not only have Wiland's Honors 3002.006, "On Honor and Laughter," come available to them for the first time, but also six others. Other new courses in the Pierce Laddro Colleges include Honors 2660.001, "Writing Difference through the Lens of Novels," 3010.006, "Emotions and Witch -craft," 3031.007, "The Linguistic Study of African American English," 3020.008, "Varieties of the Modern English," 3000.002, "Eastern Europe Since the Fall of the Soviet Union," and 3070.001, "Laughing the Way to a Study of Theory and Personal Practice." Technically, none of the "new" honors course have been offered in the past, such as "Emotions and Witchcraft" taught by Dr. Kathleen Bethany Nigo, the Assistant Direc tor in the Institute of Women's and Gender Studies.

Start your semester in the right direction...
Visit the Center for Student Success in 225 of the Millennium Student Center

We are here to help you:
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• Manage your time
• Improve your GPA
• Decide on a major

Our workshops include:
• Time Management
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• Test-Taking Strategies
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See: www.studentsuccess.umsl.edu for details or call: 314.516.5300

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Providing a gateway for UM-St. Louis students

By: CHARLES SHERMAN

Age: 50

In the approaching school year, UMSL is striving to improve, expand and reach new heights in every arena. Such an endeavor is impossible without two key components: vision and funding. The man behind both aspects of UM-St. Louis is its chancellor: Thomas George. Describing the position of chancellor, he notes that it is given by other times. In the business world, a chancellor might be called CEO. In many other schools, the role is titled President. The UM system has one president and four individual chancellorships at the four campuses in St. Louis, Columbia, Berkeley and Kansas City.

As a basic nod to openness, a chancellor oversees general University life. Interests, detailed and thorough strategy planning is the synonym of a University's growth, but fund- raising is vital if these plans are to be materialized. Chancellor George speaks of the ways in which UM-St. Louis has excelled notably in its expansionist ambitions.

"At a time when state and federal funds are decreasing, we have consistently found ways to increase our funds while keeping tuition low."

If that sounds like something of a balancing act, then consider all of the various parties involved whose needs must be served. From students to administrators, Chancellor George has his work cut out for him when it comes to compromise.

"This, to be honest that the Chancellor has made himself a particularly approachable figure on campus. He also represents UMSL's vision, something the Chancellor's office portrays via an eye-catching display of varied visual imagery.

Most recently the Chancellor was in Romania to present a paper while he was at the Western Conference (UMSL) in the 18th century cathedra. On campus, he makes it a point to attend sporting events, host guest speakers and works closely with the Student Government Association. "There are countless students with ideas, complaints, and comments they need heard, and they are all able to speak through their representa­ tives. Even when we don't agree, we agree to disagree and everyone goes away knowing there options."
**Benefits of involvement outweigh the complications**

**Our Opinion**

For many students, "getting involved" is a vague and abstract idea that is conflated with the weighty decision of choosing a major. The decision, however, is not nearly as complicated as many would believe. Getting involved in campus life can bring students closer to their peers and professors, facilitate friendships, and develop leadership skills. Involvement can also be a gateway to internships, jobs, and professional opportunities. Getting involved can also be a fun and fulfilling part of college life.

**Guest Commentary**

*Immerse yourself in campus life and truly be a Triton*  
by Melissa E. Huffman

We spend the majority of our time on campus, but how much of that do you spend really "living"? We often find ourselves in the daily routine of classes, work, and social activities. But how many of us take the time to truly live? To be involved in campus life means more than just attending classes and participating in activities. It means being part of a community that is committed to making a difference in the world.

One feeling you are guaranteed when you are involved on campus is not being alone with nothing more than "four empty walls" to define your life. Instead, you are surrounded by the "Expertise" section of a room. How much better to share that with others who share your interests and passions.

There are many opportunities to become involved on campus, and the best way to find them is to ask the people you know and the professors you love. They can guide you towards the right opportunities and help you get started on your path to involvement.

Once you have decided to get involved, you will find that there is no better feeling than being part of a community that is working together towards a common goal.

To make the most of your time on campus, be sure to take advantage of the many opportunities available to you. Attend events, join clubs, and get involved in campus life. There is no better feeling than being part of a community that is working together towards a common goal.

**EDITORIAL BOARD**

Melissa S. Hayden  
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"Our Opinion" reflects the major opinions of the Editorial Board.

**We want to hear from you**

As a forum for public expression on campus, the Current welcomes letters to the editor from students, faculty, staff members, and others concerned with issues relevant to the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

**Letters to the editor** should be brief, and not those exceeding 300 words; will be given preference. The editors reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and length, words not for dialect, correct relevant to the University's intent or grammar.

**STAFF VIEWPOINT**

Do you want change? Endorse third party candidates

By Melissa S. Huffman

As a student who cares about the future of this country, I am very frustrated. I want change but I know that I do not fit into the typical political mold. I am not a typical Democrat or Republican and I do not believe that either party truly represents my values.

For years, I have voted for the lesser of two evils but I am tired of this cycle. I want change and I want it now. I am sick of hearing the same old promises from both major parties. I want something new and different.

I believe that third party candidates can bring about the change we need. They can present fresh ideas and innovative solutions to the problems that face our country.

There are many third party candidates running this year, but I have chosen to support the Green Party. The Green Party is committed to issues such as environmental sustainability, social justice, and economic equality.

I encourage you to consider supporting a third party candidate. Together, we can bring about the change our country needs. Let's stand up and make our voices heard.

**Contact Us**

Mail:  
One University Blvd., Room 303B  
St. Louis, MO 63121  
Email:  
thecurrent@umsl.edu

Post your comments at www.thecurrentonline.com
Students at UM-St. Louis pay their student fees as a part of their tuition, but they are also responsible for paying for non-fee-based services. This is a wide range of services, such as financial aid or scholarships, including $10,000 underwriting for tenured professors. The SGA president will be a key figure in these discussions.

2. James Bugg was the new student group president for that dreaded 9:30 a.m. class. He described the latest additions from veteran students into actual UM-St. Louis recognized student organization meetings.

3. There are a variety of different events throughout the school year. The campus is home to more than 2,000 students, similar to Health Services, the UM-St. Louis campus and the Student Center. "That is my understanding," he said. "If you want to know more, you can ask me in the library."
The Touhill presents both area-wide performances and campus events

By Cara Marques

Two stages, all theatres at the PAC

The Touhill offers an array of area-wide performances and campus events. The venue offers students discounts for events and there are many free events as well. The PAC was named for former Chancellor Blanchette Touhill, who was instrumental in having it built.

One of the reasons where it was first constructed was that the campus had almost no performing arts program, beyond its strong music program. Since then, the plaza has changed.

Not only has the music department continued to grow but also a whole new art of performing arts has sprung up and flourished.

The Touhill Performing Arts Center is a venue much frequented for performances and concerts.

The venue offers students discounts for events and there are many free events as well. The PAC was named for former Chancellor Blanchette Touhill, who was instrumental in having it built.

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Not only has the music department continued to grow but also a whole new art of performing arts has sprung up and flourished.

The Touhill Performing Arts Center is a beautiful venue for the performing arts. This architectural gem straddles the Anheuser-Busch building, providing sweeping vistas of the campus grounds, particularly from the music department, providing sweeping vistas of the campus grounds, particularly.

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Is slowing down worth the frustration?

For a while, I was a fast driver. Recently, however, I have been driv­
ging slower to save gas. Since I have decided to "drive 55," I have noticed new things. One: I really am saving gas. Two: Other drivers hate my guts. Who is a slow driver? Apparently some people do.

Recently, Sen. John Warner has asked Congress to consider impos­ing a national speed limit in order to reduce that consumption. This would be the first request for a national speed limit.

In 1974, a national speed limit of 55 miles per hour was set because of the Arab Oil Embargo, which significant­ly raised the price of oil. In 1995, the speed limit was finally repealed. The idea did not go over well with the general public. Most people were es­timated.

A study by the Congressional Research Service says fuel savings during the obligatory national limit amounted to only two percent of the total highway fuel consumption.

With the conclusions drawn by the above study, it is safe to say that a national speed limit would only be a temporary solution to a permanent problem.

While there are other logical issues with setting a national speed limit, it is also a personal matter. Nobody likes being told how fast to drive, but everyone expects other people to drive how fast you want them to and not care who should the government.

Of course, in an ideal world, everyone would play nice and share the road. Highway drivers could stay in the right lane allowing faster drivers to keep to the left. This is already standard practice on the German autobahn where there is no speed limit and accident rates are fairly low. This is a world we understand on American highways, too, but no matter where you are, there will always be drivers who think they own the road.

Fast drivers will sometimes stay in the right lane, rudely declining the vehicle in front of them until the person lets them pass or until they give up and go around. Slow drivers can be seen in both lanes, disrupting the flow of traffic.

Both practices are dangerous and indicate that there are bigger prob­lems than people simply driving the wrong speed. Improved driver edu­cation would help reduce accidents and be more beneficial overall.

Having everyone in slow slower will not stop people from speeding, either. Highway speed limits, some of which are already set to 55 miles per hour, tend to be ignored. Strict enforcement of these limits would only mean more tickets, not slower drivers.

It has been shown, however, that many cars operate efficiently at 55 to 60 miles per hour. Most people know this, but whether or not to make use of that efficiency should be up to the driver.

Driving slower is definitely not for everyone, but if you are looking to save some extra gas, have a little less stress, and not make the angry drivers, you may find it is worth a shot. The 55 per­cent expected of the highway is slow down with you.

In this approaching year, UM­St. Louis has several major projects planned. The university will be going through reaccreditation in November, a process that takes place once every seven years.

For three days in November, the Higher Learning Commission will be on campus. Chancellor George expects a good deal of time making sure everyone knows how they are involved, so that, if queried upon, they can explain to a member of the HLC.

"Chancellor George explic­itly wants everyone to know how they play their part," he says.

Also appearing in a new strate­gic plan for UM-St. Louis. With the rolling out of the 2004-2008 plan, a new vision will be brought up for re­flection. The new package will focus on five new strategic directions for UM-St. Louis' future. The new plan's overall concepts with a unique aspect this time around a main­tenant of what Chancellor George has given the name "Gateway for Greatness.

With new parking lots completed, new science building underway, and a $100 million fundraising cam­aign approaching, UM-St. Louis has a full array of exciting develop­ments coming up. The university is under the Chancellor's "Gateway for Greatness" plan.

"Five-year strategic plans don't usually have titles, but I felt like it needed one if it is to be determined for everyone precisely what we are try­ing to do. We thought of calling it 'Gateway To Greatness' but that would seem to imply that greatness is something in the future. It is going to be achieved here and now. Gateway for Greatness." The plan will be voted on in Sep­tember at which time, Chancellor George expects, it will be adopted.

www.ums.louisiana.edu/library
Making friends
Getting involved
Challenging yourself
Learning on the job
Building an awesome resume
Getting great pay
Having fun

JUST HOW MANY JOBS
SOUND THIS GOOD?

The Current

is a weekly newspaper written and designed by dedicated UMSL students, named Best in State by the Missouri College Media Association two years running, and we’re looking for staff members to fill the following positions for the 2008-2009 school year:

- Proofreader
- Copy Editor
- Page Designers
- Columnists
- Staff Writers
- Illustrators
- Cartoonists
- Staff Photographers
- Design Editor
- News Editor
- Web Editor
- Business & Ad Reps

Visit www.thecurrentonline.com/apply or e-mail thecurrent@umsl.edu for more information and to learn how to apply.
The course in an original semester; however, it has grown to now at UM-St. Louis, the first time as “Women, Whiskers, and Literature,” the second title in 2006 as “Feminism and Whitbread” to emphasize the historical and critical aspects of the class, and Ngia. “This will be the first time it is offered as an honors class, [and] I have added a number of course readings...” Ngia’s class promises to be unique, and it is not often a student has the opportunity to take a discussion-based course on a topic such as witchcraft.

“I believe it is called so because we examine our cultural texts and historical events to include the contributions of everyone,” explained Ngia on why a course like Feminism and Whitbread should be offered at UM-St. Louis.

“Not only does this class explore the role of women diverse cultures in history, society, and spiritual beliefs, it also recognizes powerful and knowledgeable women were processed and isolated.”

Another honors course that has already been introduced to the UM-St. Louis campus under briefly, is called “Leaving the Way: A Study of Henry and Personal Practice” and taught by Dr. Traci Hendley as Adjunct Professor at the Purnell-Larkin Bismarck College.

“I taught a version of the course in the winter semester of 2007,” said Hendley. This time around Hendley detailed what their course experience can gain from taking on the course early.

“The seminar will provide opportunities for students to explore the development of selected leadership theories and...to implement the theories in guided practice. Through a series of mini-workshops, interviews of recognized leaders, and mini-vinyls the students will gain an understanding of how effective...will impact their personal and professional lives—especially if they choose to lead.”

Although all of the new honors courses offered in the fall assure many academic fresh and graduate student, as well as knowledgeably proficient, those students not enrolled in the honors College are not to be left out.

The Faculty Senate and University Assembly approved four new access additions on North Campus in March of 2008.

These four courses are Art 2273 “Pretending Staging,” Conservatory 3139 “Crain, Dance, and Kink Communication,” Geon 500 “Dying, Grief, and Death in Oral Aristocide” and Music 5161 “Advanced Social Centering.”

Of these newly approved UM-St. Louis classes, only one can be found in the fall 2008 course listings. The lone course is “Dying, Grief, and Death in Older Adults” and taught by one but two different instructors.

The first, a2014 of Gerontology at UM-St. Louis, and the second is a bowling social worker.

Dr. Tom Meuser is the Director of Gerontology as well as an Associate Professor of Social Work and Psychology. He developed the idea for the new course.

“The course is intended as a true gerontology course focusing on end of life issues. All of the content will focus on what older adults believes and experience, as opposed to obsolete courses that cover the common of dying issues,” said Meuser.

Meuser also explained why his course might be an important one for UM-St. Louis students to consider taking.

“Students interested in working with older adults must understand how to be comfortable with such concepts as death anxiety, in addition to knowing how to talk about (l)es and death in constructive, sensitive ways,” he said.

He said the course will include discussions, guest speakers and video clips of older adults telling of death in their own words.

From an human course discussion, bereavement, to gerontology courses focusing on grief and death, there will be no lack of variety in academic material available this upcoming fall semester at UM-St. Louis.

EMERGING LEADERS SERIES

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PARTICIPANTS WILL:
- Get on a fast-track to student leadership, campus, and community involvement.
- Enhance personal leadership abilities through workshops, activities, and reflection.
- Develop mentoring relationships with experienced student leaders.

THE EMERGING LEADERS SERIES SCHEDULE:

Week 1: September 20, 2008 2-4 p.m. Kick Off
Week 2: September 27, 2008 2-4 p.m. Introduction
Week 3: October 4, 2008 2-4 p.m. Model the Way
Week 4: October 11, 2008 2-4 p.m. Blogging & Shared Vision
Week 5: October 18, 2008 2-4 p.m. Challenge the Process
Week 6: October 25, 2008 2-4 p.m. Enable Others to Act
Week 7: October 31, 2008 2-4 p.m. Encourage the Heart
Week 8: November 7, 2008 2-4 p.m. ELI Reflection


KNOWLEDGE SPEAKER: Tracey Bajda

Inspiration and humor all wrapped in one! Tracey is one of those rare individuals who has a unique ability to appeal to young and old alike by bringing laughter and learning together. Participants will work on personal and organization goal setting and develop a mission statement to achieving those goals.

TOPICS INCLUDE:
- BUDGETS AND SKILLS
- TOOLS FOR LEADERSHIP
- NUTS AND BOLTS OF STUDENT LIFE
- BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE ORGANIZATION
- LEVERAGE YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR CAREER SUCCESS
- COLLABORATION

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RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO SEND ONE OFFICER! Visit www.uml.edu/studentlife and click: Fall Leadership Workshop
This bank ordered auction is in the beautiful subdivision of Alexandria Place in Jennings, Missouri. There are 84 lots, 4 finished townhomes, 2 finished single-family homes and 5 unfinished townhomes. There is not a better time to acquire a home, townhome, or just the lot to build your dream home on than this auction in this desirable neighborhood.

866-673-9270 | redfieldgroup.com
The Mercantile Library, located in the Thomas Jefferson Library, is the art, architecture and history of the area. The Mercantile exhibits art and photography exhibits throughout the year, often dealing with historical events. This is a great spot for students who are history buffs or interested in the history of St. Louis. The exhibits are often fascinating and free.

Next time you are between classes, stop that well deserved break. You may be surprised at how refreshed you will feel.

The Mercantile Library also has a gallery in its of- fices. PPCC gallery features select new media or mixed media works, making for a little more edgy and experimental.

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**CURRENT CARTOONISTS**

**Sconeborough**

**CURRENT CROSSWORD**

The world around you called UMSL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Associate Director of Student Life</td>
<td>2. Oldest library west of the Mississippi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. University colors</td>
<td>3. New enrollment system at UMSL</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Where the Lee Theater is</td>
<td>4. Cocktail invented in St. Louis</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Founding father of UMSL</td>
<td>6. Name of Honors College</td>
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<td>13. Birthplace of Harry S. Truman</td>
<td>7. Founder of St. Louis</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Acronym of the conference in which UMSL sports play</td>
<td>9. Student-run gallery on campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>20. UMSL has received $1 million from the Small Business Administration to create this</td>
<td>10. UMSL's current mascot</td>
</tr>
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<td>21. Place to grab some grub</td>
<td>12. Current SGA Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Name of UMSL's student radio station</td>
<td>14. School which has joint engineering program with UMSL</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. Previous mascot</td>
<td>16. More familiarly known as Mark Twain</td>
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<tr>
<td>27. State animal of Missouri</td>
<td>17. Fortune 500 company on campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Current SGA president</td>
<td>18. The chancellor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Number of schools in the UM System</td>
<td>19. The first successful parachute jump to be made from a moving airplane was made by this man in St. Louis in 1912</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Find answers to this week's crossword at [The Current website](http://www.current.umsl.edu)

**Your work may not make it into an art gallery.**

However, *The Current* is looking for cartoonists. Send a resume, cover letter, and samples of your work to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

---

**CURRENT CARTOONISTS**

**Sconeborough** by E. Gearhart

"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearhart

**Penn Spawn**

"Penn Spawn" is drawn by Current cartoonist Caleb True

*"Rose University" is drawn by Current cartoonist Sinki Kim*
GET A STUDENT LIFE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 314.516.5291

WEEK 1

8/16 Legacy Lunch, UMSL Alumni Center
8/17 Welcome Picnic, MSC
8/18 Comedian and Ice Cream Social / Snack Attack: Welcome Center; MSC Bridge, Marillac
8/19 Drive-in Movie, Lot C, south of MSC / Snack Attack: Welcome Center; MSC Bridge, Marillac
8/20 Student Org Expo, Quadrangle / Speaker: Kevin the Food Dude
8/21 Blood Drive / Diversity Roundtable Reception / BBQ and Musicfest
8/22 Service Day: Varied Locations / Beach Party, Oak Hall
8/23 Dive-in Movie, Oak Hall Pool
8/24 Experience St. Louis: Cardinals Game

WEEK 2

8/24 Yuck Wrestling, Oak Hall / Theme Dinner, Provincial House
8/25 Bingo, Bingo
8/26 Greek 101 / UPF Table Day / The Divided Blackness: Exploring the rift between Africans and African Americans
8/27 Career Services Open House
8/28 Gallery Visio Opening: RAW / UMSL Wear Fashion
8/29 Student Government Association Meeting

WEEK 3

9/3 UPF Theatre
9/5 Fall Leadership Workshop / UMSL Day at the Cards Game
9/8 Brooks Brothers
9/9 Triton Games, MSC Lakes
9/10 Hump Day Hoopla
9/10-9/13 Sorority Recruitment
9/12 Fall Internship and Job Fair

WEEK 4

9/16 Lunch and Learn: Effective Communication
9/17 Wednesday Noon Live: Red, White, and You / Constitution Day
9/18 UMSL Scavenger Hunt
9/19 Balloon Glow, Forest Park

WEEK 5

9/21 Bonfire @ MSC
9/22 Blood Drive & Canned Food Drive / Karaoke Competition
9/23 Chili Dinner
9/24 Big Man on Campus
9/25 Homecoming Parade / Gallery Visio Opening / Step Show
9/26 Triton Soccer Games
9/27 Homecoming Dance