UMSL Panhellenic ladies host a Greek rush

KARLYNE KILLEBREW
FEATURES EDITOR

This past week, from Thursday, September 4, until Sunday, September 7, the ladies of University of Missouri-St. Louis's Panhellenic Council hosted their annual fall recruitment, commonly referred to as "Rush" in the past, this selection of days are set aside for each of the three Panhellenic chapters on UMSL's campus to get to know their potential members while, allowing those who interested to get to know them as well.

Alpha Xi Delta, Zeta Tau Alpha, and Delta Zeta are the three chapters presently in existence at the university. Each are members of the National Panhellenic Council, and despite their differences in identification, any woman who joins becomes a "National Panhellenic Association Woman," according to Jade Kaiser, junior, special education major and treasurer of the UMSL Panhellenic Council.

Becoming a Panhellenic Association woman is an opportunity waiting to be explored by any undergraduate collegiate lady. In an effort to reach out and welcome students the chapters will do tabling, where they set up a table in an optimal location for heavy traffic and interact with new students, host booths and Expo and the different UMSL fair hosted to encourage student involvement, and host an annual Meet the Greeks event where those who are interested can come and ask questions getting more information. According the Panhellenic Council President Kristen Woodhall, senior, psychology and communications double major, "...you can just reach out to the chapter. The chapter will be around."

What was traditionally a week-long series of events was condensed to four days in order to better accommodate both active members and incoming members. However, the four days are packed with hours of activity designed to facilitate communication and hopefully plant seeds for future relationships.

Thursday, September 4 and Friday, September 5, were geared towards potential members learning about the chapters. From 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. both nights, as well as 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, interested ladies were required to attend the "Chapter Visit" round. There they learned about each individual chapters academic and campus involvement, personal philanthropy initiatives, and methods of exploring and living our sisterhood. Every young lady was required to visit each chapter at least two times between Thursday and Friday.

Saturday, September 6, was the "Invitation" round. This was a chance for the women to get to know each other. The chapters sent out invitations to prospective members, who would have to attend all the mandatory formal events they were invited to, if they wished to remain eligible for membership. Afterwards, each prospect was to select which two chapters they wished to visit on preference day.

Finally, on Sunday, September 7, there was a combination of the "Preference" round held that morning at 10 a.m. and "Bid Day" held the same evening at 5:30 p.m. "Preference," another formal, mandatory, invitation only event, allowed each potential member one last chance to speak with their preferred organizations and to handle any business they deemed necessary. It was also a prelude to the grand finale where each young lady would know which chapter she was in, if she became a member of the National Panhellenic Council. At 5:30 p.m., the bids were handed out and the new members were welcomed into their respective chapters. They were presented with t-shirts and taken to enjoy a special bonding experience with their new sisters as well as finding out the mystery of which group the chapter officers and recruitment counselors belonged to.
Correction for Issue #1443

Due to an error during production of the printed edition of The Current for September 2, 2014, the text for the School of Business Administration Sponsored Column on page 8 contained an error and was incorrect. Some text from an opinion piece titled “Is America Great?” which ran in the April 28, 2014 issue, appeared at the end of the text in the Sponsored Column.

A corrected version of the September 2, 2014 issue of The Current, with the actual School of Business Administration Sponsored Column, was distributed on campus on September 4, 2014. The corrected Sponsored Column can also be found inside this edition of The Current.

The Current regrets the error and sincerely apologizes to Dean Charles Hoffman, the School of Business Administration, and our readers.

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The University of Missouri—St. Louis made local news August 5 as a rescue spot for a kitten stuck in a drainpipe near the West Avenue Parking Garage. Humane Society officials, UMSL grounds crew, campus police, and Roto Rooter volunteers gathered around 11 a.m. to rescue the kitten about 20 feet down. Because of how far away the kitten was, rescuers could not use typical strategies and equipment. The cat had been in the drainpipe since around 8:30 a.m. when a woman complained to the UMSL grounds crew about meowing. The UMSL grounds crew identified the source of the meowing as a drainpipe. The Humane Society then dug a hole next to it to start the rescue of the kitten. The Fire Department showed up around 5:30 p.m. to pump a total of six tanks of oxygen into the pipe for the kitten since it had been there for so long.

The Humane Society wanted to stay until they could get the cat, but encroaching storms in the area pushed rescuers away. The Humane Society came back Saturday to continue the rescue.

Follow the story with #kitteninpipe on Twitter or on Fox2now.com.

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Shots were fired near a Ferguson’s Blessed Teresa of Calcutta School at Chambers Road and North Elizabeth Avenue. Children were playing soccer for the Catholic Youth Council’s first grade girl’s opening season soccer game Saturday just after noon. One hundred kids and parents were at attendance, no one was hurt. After hearing gun shots, parents lay over their children on the ground, hid behind trees, and took cover in the concretie storm drain. Parents saw a running gun battle between two men firing over a dozen shots. The shooters ran away before the police arrived. The shooting reportedly started after a domestic dispute in the neighborhood. KTVI reported that parents said they would never bring their children back to Ferguson to play soccer. The Ferguson Police were not available for comments on the situation. The St. Louis Archdiocese is planning to offer counseling to those who witnessed the shooting.

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The Current values feedback from the campus community. Do you have a tip regarding a story? Have a correction to report? Do you have a question or comment for our staff? Contact us at thecurrenttips@umsl.edu. We look forward to hearing from you.

The Current values feedback from the campus community. What do you think of our campus coverage? Let us know your thoughts at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

The Current is now seeking students to fill a number of positions. These positions are available on a volunteer basis, pay or for internship credit. Applications are available on our website at thecurrent-online.com. Please submit completed applications to 388 Millennium Student Center or thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu to be considered for open positions. For more information, contact us at thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu.
WCW talks to students about gun violence

ALBERT NALL
STAFF WRITER

About 50 Students gathered in room 331 of the Social Sciences Building on September 3 from 2 – 3:15 p.m. for "What's Current Wednesday," The purpose of "What's Current Wednesdays" is to encourage the campus community's engagement on topics in the news and is co-sponsored by "The Current" and "The New York Times." The controversy over the killing of Michael Brown by Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson on August 9 prompted the discussion topic of "An Exploration of Gun Violence: Is it increasing, and if so, what's to be done?" The topic was presented by Dr. Beth Huebner, associate professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Pizza and beverages were served, and flyers giving an overview of the Ferguson crisis was distributed at the event. The discussion was opened with an introduction by The Current News Editor Kat Riddle, graduate, English, and Lynn Staley, associate teaching professor of English, who is also a member of the organizing committee for the event supported by Student Life and Community Outreach & Engagement at UMSL.

Dr. Huebner began the lecture by citing some statistics on homicide and crime rates from the Bureau of Justice as presented in the article published by "The New York Times." "The annual hospital price tag for gun violence, and not just homicide, is $670 million per year, and this is paid for by taxpayers," said Dr. Huebner. "The group that is most likely to be affected by gun violence, and even killed by guns, are youths between the ages of 15 and 24." An underlying theme of the lecture was the adverse effects gun violence has on African American youth. "This was at the source of reaction from the audience, and many who were concerned about young African American males being at risk," The effects of gun violence on African-American youth is due to challenges that are historical and structural," Dr. Huebner continued. "Being surrounded by violence is a factor. I have talked to people coming out of prison, as well as others who fear that they may not live to age 24 for fear of being shot."

Jaleah Williams, graduate, higher education, commented on the affect that social and economic status has on male teenagers, especially those who are African American. "A lot of the young boys do not have adequate role models to look up to and are not likely to go to college," Williams said. "There is a lot of crime concentrated in the North St. Louis and South St. Louis areas. The young men look up to people who should not be role models. A majority of the boys I know are gone or are locked up. They never had a chance. Many people feel like the environment consumes them."

The discourse at the lecture suggested a grim outlook for youths who are at risk for gun violence in their neighborhoods. However, there were also some suggestions at the lecture as to who is accountable for reducing the risk to young men. Dr. Huebner stated that getting young people through the milestone of completing a high school education reduces the peril of violence and incarceration. Other proposals cited at the lecture for countering the risk of violence for racial minorities ranged from creating jobs for youths to recruit minorities, diversify and better train police departments. "We train police officers to enforce the law, to be neutral. We do not train them very well in soft skills. We need to train police officers to better deal with the community." Dr. Huebner stated.

Donna Hayes, junior, theater, offered additional input on how to deal with community violence. "It starts with the home, and the first teacher should be your parents, and they should lead by example," commented Hayes. "A lot of young people having children do not necessarily know the steps they need to take to be a parent. Don't let your child go to school cursing out the teacher or fighting, and then slap them on the wrist."


What's the big deal about the new UMSL ID card?

DONNA BRANDY
STAFF WRITER

The University of Missouri-St. Louis has made a few changes to the ID card issued to students, faculty and staff. It is the official photo identification card used to access various facilities and utilize various resources around campus. Without having the ID card, access to facilities and resources can be denied. The TritonCard Office is located on the lower level of the Millennium Student Center between the Nosh and the vending machine area. One of the changes to the ID card is a name change. It is now called the TritonCard. The magnetic strips on the new cards have been moved to the bottom of the card to prevent the photos of students from fading because of continuous swiping to access dorms and other secured areas during and after hours. It has also been laminated for extra protection.

The card can be used to pay for student meal plans and store value at the library to check out books and laptops, access the Residential Halls, utilize the Health and Wellness Center or Triton Store and for campus printing. Other benefits connected to the TritonCard are discounts at the Touhill, use of the University Readership Program and access to the Fitness Center in the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center. Mary Lynn Longsworth, office support staff one in the Triton Card Office, said, "most students don't realize this but, shortly before the beginning of the term, each semester students can use their IDs to charge up to $1250.00 in the bookstore to their student account" to purchase books and supplies they may need for class.

The requirements to receive a TritonCard is simple. During the current academic school year an individual must be enrolled as a student for at least one course, a current employee or in the New Employee Request status. Some University of Missouri employees, who may be attached to the St. Louis campus, may be eligible to receive a TritonCard. The official documents that are acceptable as proof of identification are a valid government state or driver's license, a U.S. passport or passport card, a U.S. Employment Authorization Card or a U.S. military ID. The TritonCard is valid for the duration of being a student or an employee of UMSL. The TritonCard must be surrendered upon termination of employment and/or at the request of school officials.

Replacement of the TritonCard can become expensive if the individual loses his or her ID card multiple times. The first time the TritonCard is lost there is a replacement fee of $5.00. Upon additional losses the fee increases in $5.00 increments. Longsworth said, "we have a clip here [TritonCard Office] that we can put on that is really, really hard to take off" to help prevent losing the ID card. Another resource for keeping track of the TritonCard is to purchase a lanyard and an ID Card Guard offered in the Triton Store that slides onto the side of the card. Once a replacement TritonCard has been received, the previous card is deactivated and cannot be used. If the TritonCard is lost or stolen it is recommended that the individual report it immediately. If a lost TritonCard has been turned into the office, an attempt to contact the cardholder will be done by a staff member. If the TritonCard is damaged or the magnetic strip is not working, the student can "bring in the pieces, we will replace it for free," said Longsworth. For further information and policies about the TritonCard, please visit http://www.umsl.edu/technology/.
German Embassy exhibit comes to UMSL

KARLYNE KILLEBREW
FEATURES EDITOR

Continuing with the goal of providing incomparable experiences and producing well-rounded students, the University of Missouri - St. Louis' German Culture Center is now hosting the "Dictatorship and Democracy in the Age of Extremes" exhibit. The exhibit has been on campus since August, and is open for the public’s viewing pleasure until September 12. The current hours of availability are Fridays from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. when doors are open to the public, and Tuesday through Thursdays where a tour can be arranged by appointment only. However, due to the very open set-up of the exhibit, the general office hours for the German Culture center as a whole should allow time for a quick browse for anyone who is not able to schedule an appointment or be present during the allotted visiting hours.

This exhibit is composed of 26 panels of chronologically organized informational paragraphs accompanied by pictures, maps, and drawings. These paragraphs relate key components of the major governmental disputes or upheavals that occurred in Central and Eastern Europe during the Twentieth-Century. The main focus is kept on Germany, observing and analyzing the socio-political climate and both its internal and external effects. According to German Center Coordinator, Larry Marsh, "it's primarily a look at the Twentieth-Century— at the major events of the twentieth century: the political events, ideological events."

Created for the German Federal Foreign Office, these panels are written entirely in English text. For those who are familiar with the German language and wish to gain a deeper insight into the information hosted on any given panel, there are Quick Response Codes (QR) on the bottom right side of each individual panel, that can be scanned with a smart phone and will guide the user to a German audio recording with even more details and possibly authentic recorded commentary from people who were around to experience events as they happened.

The original was created in Germany, through the work of multiple non-profits organizations and universities—two major contributors being the Institut für Zeitgeschichte (Institute for Contemporary History) and the Deutschlandradio Kultur (German Culture Radio). Provided by the German Embassy in New York, the exhibit is currently going on a national tour through the United States. Thanks to our region's Honorary Consul, Lansing Hecker, UMSL is honored with being the first stop on the tour.

The exhibit itself, at the very least, can be labeled as a topic of serious, ongoing discussion. It tells the story of a period in time that is often highlighted as a period of great international upheaval that had suffered what Larry Marsh describes as a "complete defeat." Marsh continues to note, "...at the end of WWII [Germany] had to confront their history...particularly not [just] some good things but also some horrible things that happened. The Nazis, the holocaust...they've had to grips with that because they were completely and thoroughly defeated." The United States was one of the leaders in the process of bringing Germany a more stable, lasting democracy, yet there are many different versions of America's personal history that are commonly told both inside and outside the country. Even keeping the focus solely on the topic of the exhibit, there is potential for so many worldview altering reactions to the story of the two world wars being told without a simplistic dichotomy of right and wrong.

Marsh, also a retired history teacher who studied German culture at the graduate level, said, "...it's very objective an attempt to look objectively at the problems facing democracies." The idea that democracy may or may not be the highest, most ideal form of government is now being academically demonstrated to a notoriously proud democratic state. The possibilities for discussion are virtually endless with this exhibit, especially since it has an ending point, whereas history is continuously being made.

As far as exposure of the exhibit goes, the coordinator was reluctant to reveal attendance numbers. So far, the majority of surveyors have been German classes and history students. However, this exhibit can appeal to a broader range of audiences.

Students talk travel at Study Abroad Fair

TIFFANEE ARTHUR
STAFF WRITER

The Study Abroad Fair was hosted on the second floor of the Millennium Student Center on September 10 from 11-2 p.m. Many representatives of the Study Abroad Office were present along with students who participated in study abroad before. Representatives manned booths of different international locations that students could choose. There were raffles for students to win prizes and information was available about the different universities and countries which have arrangements for study abroad with the University of Missouri—St. Louis. Representatives talked about the different programs that were offered and majors that were included. For instance, if someone was a communications major, studying in England, he or she would be offered courses that would fit his or her major. Likewise, one of the universities in New Zealand offered courses that would fit economic majors.

The representatives discussed a lot about the cost of going abroad. There are many financial aid and scholarship options available for students who want to go out of country, but are held back because of the cost. The representatives were there to help students find what scholarships would be best for them. They also talked about the different possible lengths of stay overseas. Some are only for a semester while others can be for the whole academic year.

Students have several choices in putting together a study abroad plan. Besides the regular semester options, there is also a more intensive two week emersion in the culture of the country if you are interested. Many of the student representatives who did go abroad went on a semester long program such as Katie Kratzer, graduate, criminology and criminal justice, who studied abroad in Costa Rica and in Italy. In Costa Rica, Kratzer went to a smaller university where her class size was fairly small—about 6 others were in her class—which gave her more of a intimate class setting. Kratzer also toured Italy for two weeks where she got to visit different cities such as Venice and Florence.

Another student representative at the event went to Istanbul on a non-UMSL program. She talked about how the met new people and how the locals were very kind to her. She also got to enjoy the different food and what the culture had to offer. Both students agreed that going abroad was one of the best experiences of their life and would not hesitate to do it all over again. They both recommend that every student at UMSL should experience studying abroad.

The study abroad fair wasn't the only way students could learn about studying overseas. Though the fair is over now, interested students can learn more about study abroad and the programs that are offered at The Study Abroad Office, located on the second floor of the Millennium Student Center room 261. The staff encourages all students to take time and see what they have to offer.
Arianna String Quartet ‘Dynamic Duo’ means sweet sound at Touhill

DONNA BRANDY
STAFF WRITER

The Arianna String Quartet’s ‘Dynamic Duo’ concert took place on Friday, September 5, 2014 at 8 p.m. at the E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theater in the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center on the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus. The concert was an E3! (Explore, Experience, Engage) evening of sheer enjoyment for the 292 patrons, which consisted mostly of the elder generation. Those who chose to see this first of five performances by The Arianna String Quartet (ASQ) had a great evening of memorable music in just under a two-hour time frame on a beautiful night. The music sparked the instrumental side of the individual.

Scott Andrews, principal clarinetist of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, joined ASQ’s John McGrosso, first violinist, Julia Sakharova, violinist, Joanna Mendoza, violist, and Kurt Baldwin, cellist, for a fantastic and exciting evening of discussion, music, and refreshments. During the pre-show discussion, patrons had the opportunity to ask questions and learn about the background history of the music. This was done through snippets of music played by the quintet, of Ludwig van Beethoven’s Quartet in E-flat Major, Op.127 and Johannes Brahms’ Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op.115.

The musicians also discussed why the composers created their music in their own unique way, which enhanced the listeners’ experience. These two famous composers were the featured “Dynamic Duo” portrayed in the evening’s performance.

Beginning with Beethoven’s Quartet, each musical piece was masterfully played by the ASQ with finesse throughout the evening. Each musician, with a look or a nod, received his and her cues from each other to proceed with the next note or phase of the piece. ASQ’s precision and skill shown through in the intensity of their facial features and their body movements as they played each note, so the audience could sense a fluid motion of rhythm and harmony in a mesmerizing and relaxing way.

After a brief intermission, Andrews joined ASQ for the Brahms’ Quintet. The subtle sounds of the clarinet blended well, with its birdlike tone creating a nice mixture and balance in the midst of the violins, the viola, and the cello. Each musician connected with their instrument as one, blending from a whirlwind of call and response, give and take through the staccato beats of enthusiasm and deep melodic tones throughout each song. An intense journey through the minds of two famous composers were created by the expert playing of five dedicated musicians, who finished the journey by receiving a standing ovation. With the audience so wonderful and receptive to the performance, the quintet performed one additional piece by Mozart.

To end the evening, a small reception followed the outstanding performance. The array of light refreshments included Parmesan spinach artichoke dip, creamy Nutella dip with pretzel sticks, fresh fruit, Starbucks decaf coffee, water, strawberry-flavored sparkling cider and assorted dessert bars. This was a great way for the audience members to share their feelings and thoughts with each other and the artists about the evening’s performance. It is highly recommended to those who enjoy the art of classical music to partake in their next performance.

To find our additional information on the next performance of the ASQ at the Touhill, visit the Touhill’s website: http://www.touhill.org.

GRADE: A
Women’s soccer goes 2-0 in opening weekend

The University of Missouri-St. Louis woman’s soccer team came out and finished strong on Friday during their game against Waldorf with a win of 3-0. From the very beginning they were outshooting Waldorf 26-1. The game took a great turn as they went into the 14th minute when Laura Hartbut, junior, special education, with an assist from Mary Kopisy, senior, nursing, scored the first goal of the season. The game was exciting every step of the way, the defense was strong and the offense was unstoppable. Megan Ohm, junior, psychology, played all 90 minutes and secured the shutout. UMSL had 9 shots on goal including the three games winning shots. Jen Eaton, junior, graphic design, assisted Katie Rapisardo, junior, communications, for the 2nd goal at 32 minutes. Then at the 72nd minute Eaton found herself charging the goal and scoring. This win is a great debut for the new Head Coach Wendy Dillingter, she is making great strides to get this team to the championships. They played again Sunday at 1 p.m. against Lindenwood and walked away with another win, 3-1. As I said in the season preview, if you want to take a break and go see an amazing team play a great game, go see the UMSL women’s soccer team.

Triton Volleyball goes 3-1 in opening weekend

The University of Missouri-St. Louis volleyball team had a great opening weekend in Evansville, Indiana where they played at the Dunn Hospitality Invitational. The Tritons started their season with a 3-1 win over Ohio Dominion, going 25-13, 22-25, 25-16 and 25-16 in the first four sets. Hannah Miller, junior, graphic design, got 10 kills for the Tritons in this opening game. Later that afternoon they fell 0-3 to West Florida.

The following morning the Tritons dominated against Hilldale College with a 3-0 win. Jory Siebenmorgen, sophomore, studio art, led the team getting 12 kills with Haley Brightwell, graduate, business administration, not far behind with 9. Lindsay Meyer, junior, economics, served 3 aces and provided 29 assists. Against Hilldale, the UMSL volleyball squad put up an impressive 47 kills to their opponent’s 33.

On Saturday afternoon UMSL had an action packed game against the University of North Alabama winning 3-2, scoring 30-28, 13-25, 26-24, 24-26 and 15-8. In this exciting game, the lead changed 14 times over the course of the 5 sets. The team was led by Brightwell with 15 kills and 11 digs. Carly Ochs, junior, accounting, followed with 11 kills. Meyer added 41 assists and 14 digs.

Head Coach Ryan Young is especially pleased with how this opening weekend turned out. “I thought we had great team effort this weekend, we had kids step up and come off the bench to make a difference, especially in our last match vs. UNA. I was pleased with our mental toughness after dropping a tough match to a good West Florida team, and then to respond with 2 wins on Saturday.” Senior Outside Hitter Haley Brightwell, “It was really great to see the team click! In the match against Hilldale we really showed our team’s true potential.”

Coming out of this opening weekend Brightwell led the team with 33 kills, Siebenmorgen close behind with 30 and Miller with 28 kills. Coach Young, “Our middles did a good job with Hannah Miller and Jessica Ploss being named all tournament.” Miller and Jessica Ploss, junior, criminal justice, were named all tournament. Miller averaged 2.00 kills per set with .36 blocks and Ploss averaged 1.77 kills per set and 0.69 on blocks per set.

Next weekend the 3-1 Tritons will host back-to-back games at home, playing the University of Illinois Springfield at 5 p.m. Saturday afternoon and playing McKendree Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. in the Mark Twain Building.
Why students should work on campus

LAWUANNA TROUPE
OPINIONS EDITOR

Students should consider working on campus because it has been a great experience being a student worker. I began working for the Millennium Student Center Building Operations as a facilities student assistant during my sophomore year and of course I was only thinking about the monetary benefits. I did not know of all the benefits I would reap being a student worker. Being a student worker has helped me keep me on track and focused. Being around other students has helped with my study habits and increased my willingness to study. Since I am around other students we take the time after completing our job duties to study together. Other students will always empathize with you about school because they are going through the trials with school as well. Within our department a few of us have built a support group to help each other along during those somber times of heavy class loads and stress. Encouragement and like-mindedness around you are great to have during the school year. You also must excel academically in order to keep your job so this also pushes you to be a better student. Your bosses are your biggest supporters and their understanding that you are a student first really does play a part in your success. They hold resources and never forget that they were students before. They know what it takes to be a successful student. They never decline to help you. Communication is key with campus jobs because they cannot help you if they do not know what is going on. You also build relationships with other organizations and people. Being on campus all the time you become more aware of your peers and what events are happening on campus to keep you involved. The jobs usually are not too strenuous, and during downtime students can get classwork and projects done. Bosses are not opposed to you going to meet with your advisors or professors if needed. Especially when exam time comes around, you really get flexible time to work or take off to study and prepare. Another great thing students attain is skills. Campus jobs help build interpersonal, leadership, team building, technical, customer service, problem solving skills and more. These are important throughout life and for classes. You can add these skills to your resume and apply them to other jobs or your career after graduation. This is especially great for commuter students because even though they do not live on campus, they get the entire campus life just by going to school and working on campus. I am now a commuter student, and I have been promoted to facilities student manager at my campus job with the Millennium Student Center Building Operations. Becoming a student worker has been one of the greatest decisions I made as a college student.

SOCIOL OGY - SPONSORED COLUMN

Sociology Program Increases Online Accessibility

The UMSL Sociology Program has always been committed to offering students the most advanced training in the insights and techniques of sociological inquiry. Now, the program is more dedicated than ever to online accessibility as well. At this point, completing a Sociology minor online is an option for any student—including those pursuing a BLS degree. The program continues to expand their online course offerings, with a special focus on bringing additional 4000-level courses online, especially capstone courses. The major plans to be completely online in 1-2 years and right now faculty are willing to work with current students to help them complete the Sociology BA and BS degrees completely online if needed.

Online classes in the Sociology Program make full use of the resources available in MyGateway: discussion forums, access to web-based lecture notes, online tutorials, quizzes, and exams. These online classes engage students through synchronous and asynchronous interaction using a variety of tools, which allow students to attend class in real-time, or attend in virtual space at their convenience. Classes can be recorded and live streamed through Blackboard Collaborate. Blackboard’s wiki tool allows student research to be presented in a collaborative, online space. Students can even download audio lectures and make their own recordings to be uploaded to the course site.

Through teaching, research, and service learning, the Sociology Program provides students a critical understanding of ways people relate to one another, focusing on the organization of society as well as the way society’s structures and cultures influence our lives. The subject matter of sociology ranges from family life to organizations, from crime to education, from the divisions of race and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture, from poverty to wealth, from science to technology. The full range of Sociology’s broad and exciting scope is represented in the program’s online offerings. UMSL Sociology degree prepares students to deal with social problems and gives them the tools to conduct research to contribute new knowledge to the field. Sociology majors graduate from the program equipped to respond to a changing society by developing innovative programs to meet the challenging needs of the 21st century.

Sociology Online Course Offerings
1. Sociology 1010: Introduction to Sociology
2. Sociology 1040: Social Problems
3. Sociology 1051: Sport, Culture, and Society
4. Sociology 2102: Introduction to Gender Studies Theory (cross listed Gender Studies course)
5. Sociology 2160: Social Psychology
6. Sociology 2180: Alcohol, Drugs, and Society
7. Sociology 2192: Special Topics in Sociology
8. Sociology 2202: Urban Sociology
9. Sociology 2280: Technology and Society
10. Sociology 3200: Deviant Behavior
11. Sociology 3210: Sociological Theory
12. Sociology 3220: Social Statistics
13. Sociology 3230: Research Methods
14. Sociology 4325: Gender, Crime, and Justice (cross listed CCJ course)
15. Sociology 4534: Sociology of Business
16. Sociology 4100: Introduction to Feminist and Gender Theory (cross listed Gender Studies course)
17. Sociology 4320: Forms of Criminal Behavior (cross listed CCJ course)
18. Sociology 4600: Masculinities
19. Coming SP2015, Sociology 3280: The Networked Society
20. Coming SP2015, Sociology 4xxx: Social Informatics

In addition, students may take two of the following online Anthropology courses to satisfy Sociology degrees requirements (some of these offerings are online):
Anthropology 1011: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
Anthropology 1025: World Cultures
Anthropology 1041: Sex and Gender across Cultures
Anthropology 2192: Anthropological Perspectives on Western Cultures
The Dow Jones Industrial Average is down 317 points today! The financial world is collapsing! The economy is going into recession! Or is it? There is a student organization here at UMSL that can help you understand this situation. The Student Investment Trust (SIT) is open and available to you. We want you to join us.

What can you expect when you join us? Our mission statement gives you an idea: In the belief that equity investing is crucial to the financial success of all members of society, we aim to promote investing as a dark, mysterious place, but as a vehicle of opportunity.

Admittedly, most of the students in the SIT are College of Business Administration students, but we need other ideas and knowledge. Stock market behavior goes well beyond balance sheets and income statements. Many aspects of physical and biological science as well as psychology, health care, political science, criminal justice, computer science and economics are vital to stock market behavior. Imagine how much better our understanding of a biotech company would be if we could understand the drugs they have and the research they are doing. Imagine how an improved analysis of domestic and global politics would allow us to assess the consequences in various commodity markets.

But what do we actually do in the SIT meetings? The students present companies to the full group based on the aspects that make it an interesting company in the student's own perspective. Then the SIT discusses the company from different points of view. This is where the different interests and knowledge of individual students broaden our understanding of the company.

We have an existing portfolio for each of the day and evening classes. The students make the decisions about selling the stocks we own and/or buying new stocks. Some students know quite a bit and have had experience buying and selling stocks. Most students do not, so the opportunities are great to learn a lot and to have some fun with the decisions. The day portfolio holds about $120,000 in stocks, options, and cash. The evening portfolio holds about $90,000. The money is actually owned by UMSL as part of its endowment. The portfolio commenced officially at the end of March 1988 with $8,984.05 which was donated by Faculty and Alumni. Additional donations have been made throughout the years.

The secondary objective of the program is to provide an opportunity for student scholarships. We currently endow $20,000 in scholarships per year and have awarded $500 scholarships in 1988 with $20,000 in contests by students in the SIT.

The SIT has engaged in many other activities such as inviting speakers, visiting the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the Chicago Board Options Exchange in Chicago, visiting the New York Stock Exchange in New York City, visiting the Federal Reserve in Washington, D.C. and attending corporate annual meetings. And, perhaps the most challenging was a trip to the Spartech corporate headquarters in Clayton, MO for a mock analyst's meeting with the CEO and CFO of the corporation. Our students served as the analysts, asking the questions about the recent results of the business.

Every semester we host an Open House as an opportunity for SIT alumni, business associates, faculty and students to reunite and discuss the market's activities and their current career paths. The College of Business Administration also offers a 3-credit course for non-business majors, which explains financial transactions that all people engage in during their lives. This Personal Finance class discusses buying cars, homes, insurance as well as some basic investment strategies. All college students should seriously consider taking this course. Come visit us any Thursday during the semester when classes are in session. The day class meets from 2 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. and the evening class meets from 8:20 p.m. until 9:35 p.m. Both classes are held in 103 ESH. Contact our advisor, Dr. Kenneth Locke on his email, kwlocke@umsl.edu or our President, Wrenn Learning at wrl3sm8@mail.umsl.edu.