President’s Message

Many thanks to all who attended and contributed to our recent Town Hall Meeting with Chancellor George. We had a wonderful turn out. I was proud to see so many staff colleagues in attendance as well as our student and faculty friends. It was very uncomfortable for me to ask such difficult questions to our Chancellor, especially in our current economic situation. I did it for all of us; for those who have called, emailed and stopped me on campus to talk about what is going on, for those who have been victim of layoffs, and for those who may be next. The meeting was requested to put us all on the same page of understanding, good or bad news, for us to come together and grapple with what is happening and what is yet to come as an UMSL community. Change is never easy, but having leadership outline our situation and relay it to the masses for the common good is a necessary part of the process; otherwise, misinformation and panic reign. I applaud the Chancellor for gracefully answering the questions and agreeing to speak.

As you may know, our Secretary/Treasurer and Vice President/President Elect have both been laid off, a tragedy for not only the Staff Association but for UMSL and the departments in which they served. I am indebted to our fine Staff Council members for coming together and pushing forward. I am proud to announce that Ken Voss is our new Vice President/President Elect and Michele Pattison is our Secretary/Treasure, both have graciously agreed to serve until the end of the fiscal year. Elections will be held in May, (please see related article in this issue), and I encourage everyone to participate. The Staff Association is our voice and vehicle for betterment and growth for all us and the machine doesn’t work without good leadership, commitment and participation. Strongly consider running for a position; it is service not only to the University but to each other in order to continue the momentum and visibility we have achieved. Our work is not done and new voices are needed.

As always, I am proud to represent us and humbled by your support.

~Steffanie H. Rockette
The Nominations and Elections Committee of the Staff Association is seeking nominations for staff council positions. University Assembly representatives will be elected to serve a term of one year (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010). The building representatives will be elected for a two year term (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2011). Not all unit representative positions are open for nominations this year.

The Staff Association is a body formed to consider, to recommend, and to take such other actions as are properly related to the common concerns and best interest of those personnel at UM-St. Louis. The Council represents the Staff Association to the campus administration and functions to promote community within the Association and with the faculty and students.

Please consider serving in one of these important positions or nominate someone else who might be a good candidate to serve. Share a copy of this e-mail with the 75% or greater FTE staff who may not have easy access to e-mail.

Nominations may be submitted to Vicki Lock, Nominations and Elections Committee, after April 10 via e-mail at lockv@umsl.edu. Nominations close May 1, 2009. (Nominate for any combination of positions. Please confirm with your nominee(s) that they would be willing to run and serve if elected.) Elections will be held the middle of May.

### Open Positions and Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Representative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Unit Reps for Lucas Hall, Clark Hall, Fine Arts, Bldg. (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President/President-Elect</td>
<td>Unit Reps for Millennium Student Center (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary/Treasurer</td>
<td>Student Affairs Rep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Assembly Rep (2 positions )</td>
<td>Unit Reps for South Campus (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrator Evaluation Rep-University Assembly Committee</td>
<td>Unit Rep for University Center, J.C. Penny Conference Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology Rep-University Assembly Committee</td>
<td>Unit Rep for Benton Hall, Stadler Hall, Research Bldg., T.J. Library, Center or Molecular Electronics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Facilities, Space and General Services Rep-University Assembly Committee</td>
<td>Unit Rep for Social Sciences and Business Bldg/Tower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Reps for General Svc., Touhill PAC, MSC Garages (1)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010</td>
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</tbody>
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Riverstars Employee of Month

February 2009 Winner
Performance Versatility

*Lana Vierdag*
Administrative Associate
Political Science

March 2009 Winner
Good Work Ethic

*Cornell Lewis*
Business Systems Analyst
Cashier's Office

April is National Parkinson’s Awareness Month

After Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease is the most common neurodegenerative disease. It is a chronic, progressive disease that results when nerve cells in a part of the midbrain, called the substantia nigra, die or are impaired. Parkinson’s disease (PD) was first described in 1817 by Dr. James Parkinson, a British physician, for whom the disease was named. It is a disease that is characterized by four major features:

- Rest tremor of a limb (shaking with the limb at rest)
- Slowness of movement (bradykinesia)
- Rigidity (stiffness, increased resistance to passive movement) of the limbs or trunk
- Poor balance (postural instability)

Changes occur in facial expression, so that there is a certain facial fixity (blank expression showing little emotion) or a staring appearance (due to reduced frequency of eye blinking). Initially the symptoms are mild, usually on one side of the body, and may not require medical treatment. Rest tremor is a major characteristic of PD, and the most common presenting symptom, but some patients never develop it. Tremor may be the least disabling symptom, but is often the most embarrassing to the patient. Parkinson’s disease affects 1 in 100 people over the age of 60, with the average age of onset being 60 years. It can also affect younger people. For more information, visit the [National Parkinson’s Foundation website](http://www.nationalparkinson.org).
Relay for Life—April 24-25

Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society have been working hard this year to raise funds for the fight against cancer. Everyone has been touched by cancer in someway, and I am sure right now you can think of at least one friend, family member, or neighbor who has had to go through this great fight for life. Over the last two years, the UMSL community has raised over $80,000 towards cancer research and summer camps for the children of ill parents. Relay for Life is not only a fun event; the true purpose of Relay is to raise awareness and funds so one day there may be a cure!

Relay for Life will take place on April 24th and 25th outside the Millennium Student Center Lakes. All you need to do is form a team of 8-15 people and sign up at:
www.relayforlife.org/umslmo.

If you are unfamiliar with the event check out this video for more inspiration:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=esdA6RMpm3I

For a $10 fee, you will have the opportunity to really make a difference in someone’s life. Anyone can sign up so invite your friends, colleagues, family members, and neighbors to join you. At the event, we’ll camp out overnight and take turns walking around the track to raise money and awareness to support the American Cancer Society’s lifesaving mission. There is an incredible ceremony to celebrate cancer survivors and caregivers that starts off the night, and a moving ceremony to honor and remember those who have fought the disease. For more information, contact Adriana Hughey at 573-356-6939 or Bethany Stafford at 573-579-2198.

UMSL Game Show Trivia Questions

These questions are from Focus on the Future. How many can you answer? Answers on page 6.

1: What is Chancellor George’s middle name?

2: When did the Millennium Student Center open?

3: Name UMSL’s first Chancellor.

4: What year did the Staff Association begin?

5: Name the Staff Association’s scholarship for dependents.

6: Name the Dean of the College of Nursing.

7: What does the “H” stand for in Dr. Glen H. Cope’s name?
University of Missouri
Enhances Security of Social Security Numbers

COLUMBIA — March 16, 2009 — It may be only March, but the university is already in the midst of a system-wide spring cleaning—of Social Security numbers. The project, which takes place on all four campuses, University of Missouri Health Care, Extension and UM system, will replace all Social Security numbers necessary to UM business with alternate identification numbers and delete all those unnecessary.

“The university takes seriously its responsibility to safeguard the personal information and identity of our faculty, staff, students, alumni, retirees, friends and donors” said UM President Gary Forsee. Forsee went on to say, “This project will go a long way toward protecting the security and personal identity of our associates.”

A Division of Information Technology team has been created to initiate the process of securing Social Security numbers in a centralized database and replacing them with alternate identification numbers. Social Security numbers that are no longer necessary will be deleted to prevent exposure to outside sources. This is a huge project and will require the cooperation of everyone across the entire system.

**What can you do?** Begin by searching your electronic and paper files for Social Security numbers and deleting or shredding those that are no longer necessary. Additional information can be found at [https://doit.sharepoint.missouri.edu/sysops/public/SSNProject](https://doit.sharepoint.missouri.edu/sysops/public/SSNProject).

UM system will keep you informed of this project as it progress. **For more information on the SSN Project:** [http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/departments/is/](http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/departments/is/)

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**Laws Protecting the Integrity of Social Security Numbers**

The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, strengthens the laws protection social security numbers. Among other things, that law:

- Expanded birth record verification and made it more stringent;
- Strengthened requirements for proof of identity and immigration status; and
- Set limits on replacement cards.

The same law requires states to stop using Social Security numbers on driver’s licenses. Among the other protections social security administration has put into place over the past few years: removing Social Security numbers from payment checks; and truncating numbers on other mailings, such as the annual Social Security Statement. These measures ensure that if these mailings are stolen; the thief will not have access to your number.

The Social Security Act requires the Commissioner of Social Security to issue cards that cannot be counterfeited. That includes highly specialized paper and printing techniques—some visible to the naked eye and some not.
How Can You Protect Your Social Security Number?

As you know, you should treat your Social Security number as confidential information and avoid giving it out unnecessarily. You should keep your Social Security card in a safe place with your other important papers. Do not carry it with you unless you need to show it to an employer or service provider.

The Social Security Administration does several things to protect your number from misuse. For example, they require and carefully inspect proof of identity from people who apply to replace lost or stolen Social Security cards, or for corrected cards. They maintain the privacy of Social Security records unless:

- The law requires them to disclose information to another government agency; or
- Your information is needed to conduct Social Security or other government health or welfare program business.

You should be very careful about sharing your number and card to protect against misuse of your number. Giving your number is voluntary even when you are asked for the number directly. If requested, you should ask:

- Why your number is needed;
- How your number will be used;
- What happens if you refuse; and
- What law requires you to give your number.

The answers to these questions can help you decide if you want to give your Social Security number. The decision is yours.

For more information visit http://www.socialsecurity.gov/

Triton Connect—UMSL’s Online Community

This online discussion board provides opportunities for UMSL faculty and staff to connect with others on campus with similar professional and/or personal interests.

To access Triton Connect, faculty and staff should first log in to the campus network and then go to the following website: https://tritonconnect.umsl.edu/. First time visitors to the site should check out the Getting Started forum.

Well...what are you waiting for? Click here and start connecting with your friends at UMSL!

Answers to Trivia Questions

Answers to questions on page 4.

Shoes for Zambia
by Linda Gatson

My Tai Chi teacher has a student who will be making a trip to Zambia in August. Many of the children and adults in Zambia are getting staph infections and other diseases because of the bad water and the ground that they walk on. Her goal is to ship 5,000 pairs of shoes and she is asking for help. Children's and adult flat-soled shoes of all sizes (either new or used) are needed. If you have any usable shoes that you no longer wear and would like to contribute, please send me an email (gatsonl@umsl.edu) and I will work out arrangements to pick them up on campus.

Shoes will be collected until mid-June so that they have time to package them all before the trip.

Thank you,
Linda Gatson

What's New in the Bookstore?

Did you know that students, faculty and staff can save hundreds of dollars on software from the bookstore? Triton Tech offers many Adobe and Microsoft licensed products to the campus community for a substantially discounted price. Some of these great deals include Microsoft Office Pro Plus 2007 for only $89 and Adobe Design Premium for $329, plus many more! Just bring in your UMSL ID to Triton Tech (located inside the bookstore) to purchase these items and more for a great low price! For more information please visit www.umslbookstore.com

Other news: the University Bookstore is hosting the Grad Fair, April 7, 8, and 9, from 11:00am to 7:00pm. During this time, faculty members are invited to stop by the bookstore and visit Jostens to be fitted for a free fine quality cap and gown. Congratulations to all of our May Grads!

For more information please contact Stephanie Eaton X5765 or Stephanie@umsl.edu

-Stephanie Eaton, Assistant Bookstore Manager
Mission of the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Dr. Rosenfeld will discuss Crime and the Current Economy, in addition to Dr. Wright's bringing to us an in-depth overview of the teaching activities, not only traditional in-depth course work, but also intensive research training, especially at the PhD level and the sort of things done in the CCJ. CCJ faculty members are actively involved in many local, state, national and international service activities.

Presented by: Wright, Richard Rosenfeld, Richard
Date: Tuesday April 7, 2009
Time: 12:00 PM to 01:00 PM
Register From: Thursday January 1, 2009
Register Until: Tuesday April 7, 2009
Location: 324 Lucas Hall
Maximum Capacity: 25
To register, click here

Department of Biology/Research Building
Dr. Stevens will outline the kinds of research that go on in the department, then he will lead us in a tour/visit of one or two of the labs and then a tour of the greenhouse. This will be a walking class, so wear comfortable shoes.

Presented by: Stevens, Peter
Date: Thursday April 9, 2009
Time: 12:00 PM to 01:00 PM
Register From: Thursday January 1, 2009
Register Until: Thursday April 9, 2009
Location: R223E Research Building
Maximum Capacity: 15
To register, click here

The Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center
The Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center was formed in 1990 as the International Center for Tropical Ecology and its name changed in 2006 with a generous gift from Whitney Harris. The Harris Center provides financial support to, and academic enrichment, of the graduate program in the Department of Biology. The Center collaborates closely with the research faculty at the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo.

Presented by: Osborne, Dr. Patrick
Date: Friday April 17, 2009
Time: 12:00 PM to 01:00 PM
Register From: Thursday January 1, 2009
Register Until: Friday April 17, 2009
Location: Room 101 Benton Hall
Maximum Capacity: 50
To register, click here
COLLEGE NIGHTS AT BUSCH STADIUM
VISIT STLCARDINALS.COM/COLLEGE

APRIL 8TH
WEDNESDAY 7:15 PM
Cardinals vs. Pirates

APRIL 21ST
TUESDAY 7:15 PM
Cardinals vs. Mets

MAY 4TH
MONDAY 7:15 PM
Cardinals vs. Phillies

$10 OUTFIELD LOGE BOX TICKETS
($34 REGULAR PRICE)

FOR ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF OF ST. LOUIS AREA COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.
Coming Events

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stay Strong, Stay Healthy</td>
<td>Apr 2-June 18 12-1 p.m.</td>
<td>North Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mirthday</td>
<td>April 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>UMSL Alumni Weekend</td>
<td>April 17-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relay for Life</td>
<td>April 24-25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chancellor’s Report to the Community</td>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>Touhill Performing Arts Center</td>
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Bottom Line

If you have questions or concerns about the Link or the staff association, please contact Faith Lucas, Communications Committee Chair and Link editor, at E-mail flucas@umsl.edu