President’s Message

First, I would like to thank Stephanie Rockette for her service, dedication and leadership as our President. Her exuberance and commitment in representing us during very trying times should be an inspiration to us all. I also want to thank all the other members of the staff council who served over the past year. As Stephanie pointed out in her last message in the Link “The Association doesn’t succeed without all of us”.

Welcome to all the new members of the Staff Council. We have a lot to do over the next year as we continue to build on the successes and lessons learned from the past. There are still a few open positions that we will be trying to fill so if you would like to be involved please let me hear from you.

As we move into the new year I am asking all of you to help your elected representatives as we deal with challenges and strive to improve and strengthen our organization. One of our goals this year is to encourage more staff involvement with the association, while improving communication between the council and the staff. Chris, Faith and I have already held discussions on ways we feel we can make a difference and are developing plans to bring forward when we meet in the fall.

Finally, I want to thank you for providing me the opportunity to represent you. It is truly an honor. Thanks!

Ken Voss

Triton Connect—UMSL’s Online Community

Looking for a recipe for Cuban mojo sauce, ideas for healthy snacks, or the best place in St. Louis to get pizza? You can find that and so much more at Triton Connect. 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!
Riverstars Employee of the Month

June Employee of the Month
Mary Brown
for “Superb Communicator”.

Mary is a Principal Technical Trainer in ITS User Services. Congratulations to Mary!

Volunteer of the Month

May 2009 Winner
Stephanie Sivils
Gallery Visio

Sara Arnold of Gallery Visio says, “Stephanie is always available to help when we need her. In addition to her full-time job, she always finds time to help install new shows, or to lend her creative talents to help with various art projects. During opening receptions she is friendly and engaging with all visitors. She is prompt, courteous, and always friendly to all Visio patrons. We are proud to have her volunteering for us!”

Food Service Summer Hours for 2009

**NOSH**
Summer Hours 10:30am-2pm Monday – Friday
Begin: Monday 5/18/09
End: Fri 8/21/09

**Aromas**
Summer Hours 7:30am-12:30 pm, Monday – Friday
Begin: Monday 5/18/09
End: Fri 8/21/09

**La Cantina Loca**
Closed for summer (5/15/09-8/23/09)

**Oak Cafe**
Closed for summer (5/15/09-8/21/09)

**Provincial House Dining Hall**
Summer Hours 11:00am-2pm Monday – Friday
Begin: Monday 5/18/09
End: Fri 8/21/09

**C-Store**
Closed for summer (5/15/09-8/23/09)

**Oak Cafe**
Closed for summer (5/15/09-8/21/09)

**Umart**
Closed for summer (5/15/09-8/23/09)
HR News: Time and Labor Implementation

Tracking and Reporting Employees’ Working Time and Time Off

The University of Missouri has been developing Time & Labor (T&L), a PeopleSoft module, since 2007. The lengthy development of T&L is due to the critical level of accuracy and dependability required to streamline payroll data collection and management through the University of Missouri system, including all four campuses. Complete implementation is anticipated for University of Missouri in November 2009.

Non-exempt (hourly-paid) staff employees will access T&L through myHR to submit daily records of working time and absences; exempt (monthly-paid) staff employees will use the system to record absences; academic personnel will use it to report FMLA. When this system is in place, supervisors will be able to review and approve working time and absences from their desktops, replacing current paper collection and review processes. Each departmental WebTime person, known in T&L as a Time Keeper, will report or adjust time, assign schedules and manage exceptions.

The Time and Labor system will provide more cost-efficient and accurate pay information. It will allow for the use of time collection devices (time clocks and swipe systems) as well as web reporting (web clock and manual time entry). Training for all users of the new system will begin this summer.

As the UM-St. Louis campus prepares for Time and Labor, we may be requesting your assistance in training, implementation, and information validation. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Errol Benson, Assistant Director, Human Resources, at extension 5803.

What’s New in the Bookstore?
By Stephanie Eaton, Assistant Bookstore Manager

A better question would be “What isn’t new in the Bookstore”? It’s July and it’s hot, so are all the new items in the bookstore. Expect to see a whole new variety of UMSL spirit wear, gifts, school supplies and books. It’s back to school time and we are getting ready to welcome our students to campus with the latest in technology and fashion.

Did you know we sell movies and CD’s?
FYI...Aroma’s has extended summer hours to 12:30pm so we can cool off with delicious smoothies.
Stop by and see us soon!

There is so much new stuff that Mike, bookstore student employee, doesn’t know where to begin
Healthy for Life

Stay Strong/Stay Young: Beginner Strength and Conditioning Classes
Free and Open to all. Thursdays from 12:00pm – 12:45pm. Located in the Pilot House, lower level of MSC. Must bring own ankle and hand weights. Please email capizzi@umsystem.edu for more information. No class 7/16/09!!!

Free Answers to Your Nutrition Questions
MU Extension has partnered with Healthy for Life by now offering FREE nutrition information and education to faculty and staff through the Show Me Nutrition Line. Contact Jessica Kovarik, R.D., L.D. at 1-888-515-0016 or kovarikj@missouri.edu. Jessica is also available for personalized, scheduled consultations over the telephone.

Healthy Weight Support Group
Please join our weekly meeting to discuss healthy eating and overcoming obstacles to maintaining or achieving weight loss. The next meeting will be July 22 at 12:00 pm in Cypress Room in JC Penney building. Weekly attendance is not required. Please come when your schedule permits. Email capizzi@umsystem.edu for more information. Feel free to bring your lunch.

Other Activities/Announcements:

Healthy Summer Recipes Wanted
Please email Jaime Capizzi your favorite healthy recipe perfect for summer and she will share with the Wellness Ambassadors.

Are you a certified instructor?
We are wanting to offer more activities to the staff and faculty. If you or you know someone that would like to teach yoga, pilates, dance, etc, please email Jaime Capizzi at capizzi@umsystem.edu.

Big Bottle Bicycle Ride on Sunday, July 12
Registration: 7:30 – 9:00 AM at VFW Post 5691, 1234 Vandalia St., Collinsville, IL 62234 Routes: 22, 33 or 49 miles; Terrain: Rolling to moderate with a few big hills Features: A relishing ride on country roads, through horseradish country, including a stop near the world’s largest catsup bottle, the Brooks Catsup Bottle Water Tower. After the ride join the Summerfest Celebration where you will find food and drinks. Visit www.trailnet.org for more information.

Yoga
June 30th – August 4th OR 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm, July 2-August 6, 7:30 am – 8:30 pm. Ferguson Parks and Recreation, $35 for 6 sessions, visit www.fergusoncity for more information.
Google Search Tips

While humans organize and catalog subject directories, search engines rely on computer programs called spiders or robots to crawl the Web and log the words on each page. Search engines use a variety of techniques to imitate how people think and to approximate their behavior. As a result, most rules have exceptions.

Some basic facts
• Every word matters. Generally, all the words you put in the query will be used.
• Search is always case insensitive. Searching for [ new york times ] is the same as searching for [ New York Times ].
• With some exceptions, punctuation is ignored.

Exceptions to 'Every word matters'
• Words that are commonly used, like 'the,' 'a,' and 'for,' are usually ignored (these are called stop words). But there are even exceptions to this exception
• Synonyms might replace some words in your original query. (Adding + before a word disables synonyms.)

Punctuation that is not ignored
• Punctuation in popular terms that have particular meanings, like [ C++ ] or [ C# ] (both are names of programming languages), are not ignored.
• The dollar sign ($) is used to indicate prices. [ nikon 400 ] and [ nikon $400 ] will give different results.
• The hyphen - is sometimes used as a signal that the two words around it are very strongly connected. (Unless there is no space after the - and a space before it, in which case it is a negative sign.)
• The underscore symbol _ is not ignored when it connects two words, e.g. [ quick_sort ].

Guidelines for better search
• Phrase search (""") By putting double quotes around a set of words, you are telling Google to consider the exact words in that exact order without any change.

• Terms you want to exclude (-) Attaching a minus sign immediately before a word indicates that you do not want pages that contain this word to appear in your results. The minus sign should appear immediately before the word and should be preceded with a space.

• Fill in the blanks (*) If you include * within a query, it tells Google to try to treat the star as a placeholder for any unknown term(s) and then find the best matches. The query [ Obama voted * on the * bill ] will give you stories about different votes on different bills. Note that the * operator works only on whole words, not parts of words.

• The OR operator Google's default behavior is to consider all the words in a search. If you want to specifically allow either one of several words, you can use the OR operator (note that you have to type 'OR' in ALL CAPS).
UMSL Staff At-A-Glance

![Graph showing UMSL Staff At-A-Glance]

Source: UM-St. Louis Fact Book, Numbers reflect full time staff

Chancellor Thomas F. George on Channel 26

The Higher Education Channel has produced a feature presentation of the 2009 Chancellor’s Report to the Community. The local production will debuted at 5:30 pm July 4 on Charter Cable Channel 26. Encore episodes will air every Saturday in the month of July at 5:30 pm.

The Chancellor’s Report to the Community is online at [http://www.umsl.edu/chancellor/media/speeches.html](http://www.umsl.edu/chancellor/media/speeches.html)

When Does Old Age Begin?

According to Pew Research Center Social & Demographic Trends survey on aging, Americans differ on when old age begins. On average, they say 68. People under age 30 believe it begins at 60, while those 65 and older push the threshold to 74. Nearly two-thirds of adults ages 18 to 29 believe that when someone "frequently forgets familiar names," that person is old. Less than half of all adults ages 30 and older agree.
Discover UMSL

College of Nursing - Nursing Skills/Simulation Center

Nursing education has moved well into the 21st Century and the College of Nursing is not one to be left behind! The College of Nursing has successfully integrated simulation into all undergraduate clinical courses. Meet Noelle, the birthing simulator. Say “hello” to SAM, the adult human patient simulator (he may just say "hello" back at you). In addition, take a brief tour of the brand new state of the art health assessment lab, utilized by both undergraduate and graduate students.

Presented by: Saleska, Diane
Date: Wednesday August 19, 2009
Time: 12:00 PM to 12:45 PM
Register From: Friday January 30, 2009
Register Until: Wednesday August 19, 2009
Location: Nursing Skills Center-Seton Hall
Maximum Capacity: 20
To register, click here

Save the Date: Wellness Fair on November 10

Healthy for Life will be holding its annual wellness fair at UMSL on November 10, 2009 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Millennium Student Center. If you have ideas or would like to volunteer, contact Jaime Capizzi at capizzij@umsystem.edu. This year’s theme will be Metabolic Syndrome, a condition that can increase the risk of heart disease and Type II diabetes. There will be free screenings: blood pressure, cholesterol, blood sugar, height, and weight. In addition, there will be many exhibitors providing interactive tables.

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