Healthcare will be the topic of keynote speaker Margaret Donnelly’s address at the 21st Century Leadership Academy dinner on Thursday, May 21, at the St. Louis Woman’s Club in the Central West End.

Donnelly was tapped by Gov. Jay Nixon to lead the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services in January, just months after she lost a primary bid to succeed Nixon as Attorney General.

As director of DHSS, Donnelly serves as the state’s top public health official, overseeing some 200 programs. Her responsibilities range from planning Missouri’s response to disasters to inspecting hospitals and child care centers to supervising programs that allow seniors and people with disabilities to live independently.

Prior to her appointment, she served three terms in the Missouri General Assembly, representing Clayton, Maplewood and Richmond Heights in St. Louis County. She focused much of her work on the state budget and issues relating to families, seniors and health care. Director Donnelly served as ranking member of the panel that oversaw $8.6 billion a year in funding for public health, mental health and social services. Her high-profile work as ranking member of the House Budget Committee and the Child and Families Committee drew praise from many quarters. She has been recognized by the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association, the Missouri Alliance for Children, Youth and Families, and Paraquad, among others.

Donnelly got her start in politics as a member of the Ferguson-Florissant School Board where she served from 1986-92, including one term as president. From 1991-92, she chaired the Commission for Abused Women and Children, which established the first domestic violence shelter in St. Louis County. She was a member of the METRO Board of Commissioners from 1999-2002, and currently serves on the board of directors of the Family Support Network.

In addition to her public service, Donnelly was an attorney in private practice for 20 years. She previously worked as a social worker at schools in Missouri and Wisconsin and with the Missouri Department of Social Services. She earned her JD and bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work from St. Louis University.

The 21st Century Leadership Academy is (Continued on page 7)
NAMES IN THE NEWS

Crancer, Tucker Assume Key Roles in Attorney General’s Office

St. Louis Senior Judge Barbara Crancer and Attorney Dana Walker Tucker have been appointed to key posts in the Missouri Attorney General’s Office. Crancer will serve as Chief Counsel for the newly-created Division of Civil, Disability and Workers’ Rights. She has served as a judge in the 21st Judicial Circuit (St. Louis County) since 1992.

Tucker is the Chief Counsel for the Eastern Region, and will manage the attorneys, investigators and support staff in the Attorney General’s St. Louis office. She was a partner with Fox Galvin LLC in St. Louis.

Gillibrand Appointed to Fill NY Senate Seat

New York Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand has been tapped to fill the U.S. Senate seat made vacant by the appointment of former Sen. Hillary Clinton to U.S. Secretary of State. Gillibrand was first elected to Congress in 2006, after defeating a long-time incumbent. She is the youngest U.S. senator, and her appointment maintains the number of women senators at 17 (13D, 4R). Seventy-three women serve in the U.S. House (56D, 17R).

Obama Administration Establishes Council on Women and Girls; Appoints Women to Leadership Posts

President Obama has signed an Executive Order creating the White House Council on Women and Girls, charged with providing a coordinated federal response to the challenges confronted by women and girls and to ensure that all Cabinet and Cabinet-level agencies consider how their policies and programs impact women and families. The Council will be chaired by Valerie Jarrett, senior advisor and assistant to the president for intergovernmental affairs and public liaison.

Jarrett is one of several women appointed to high-ranking posts in the Obama Administration. Women serving in the Cabinet or holding cabinet-rank positions include:

- Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State
- Hilda L. Solis, Secretary of Labor
- Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security
- Christina Romer, Chair, Council of Economic Advisors
- Lisa P. Jackson, EPA Administrator

*At press time, KS Governor Kathleen Sebelius was Secretary-designate for the Department of Health and Human Services, awaiting confirmation by the Senate.

Are you a woman in public life with news to share? Please e-mail dstock@umsl.edu or fax 314.516.6621.

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(Continued on page 3)
Women tapped to fill judicial vacancies in multiple courtrooms across the state

In his first appointment to a Nonpartisan Court Plan Circuit, Gov. Jay Nixon broke a glass ceiling by naming St. Louis County Associate Circuit Judge Gloria Clark Reno, thus making her the first female African-American circuit judge in the 21st Judicial Circuit. Reno was appointed associate circuit judge in 2002. She holds a bachelor’s degree in English from UMSL, and earned her law degree at Saint Louis University. Reno replaces retiring Judge Melvin Wiesman, boosting the number of women judges in the circuit to 13 (of 43) or 30 percent.

Gov. Nixon also appointed Debra Ann Hopkins to the post of Associate Circuit Judge in the 27th Judicial Circuit, which covers Bates County, south of Kansas City. Hopkins’ appointment boosts the representation of women on the circuit to 25 percent (she is the lone woman out of four). She earned her bachelor’s degree in history and her JD from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Hopkins replaces retiring Judge John M. O’Bannon. The 27th Circuit is not included in the Nonpartisan Court Plan, so Hopkins will finish out the remainder of O’Bannon’s four-year term, and then must run in a partisan election.

Shortly before leaving office, Gov. Blunt appointed two women, Joel Fahnestock May, and Theresa Counts Burke, to the 16th and 22nd Circuits, respectively.

May was appointed circuit judge in Jackson County’s 16th Judicial Circuit in early January, filling the vacancy created by the passing of the Honorable Kelly J. Moorhouse. Prior to her appointment, Judge May was an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the U.S. Attorney’s office for the Western District of Missouri. She earned her bachelor’s degree in English Communications from William Woods College and her law degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She is the first woman judge to join the 16th circuit since 2003. By replacing another female, her appointment maintains the total of 11 women judges, or 33 percent.

Judge Theresa Counts Burke was appointed circuit judge in the 22nd Judicial Circuit in November, bringing the total number of women judges in the St. Louis City circuit to ten. Judge Burke was a municipal judge in the City of St. Louis before joining the circuit bench, and has over 20 years of experience in private law practice. She earned her B.A. in Political Science from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, and her JD from St. Louis University School of Law.

In addition to recently named women judges, two women were appointed to the newly-created 31st Circuit Judicial Commission which was necessitated by the adoption of the Greene County Nonpartisan Court Plan by a majority vote in the November 2008 General election. Greene was the first county to join the Missouri Nonpartisan Plan since 1973.

Linda Fowler and Sara Hargis, both of Springfield, are the lay members appointed by Gov. Blunt to the new commission. They and their fellow commissioners are charged with recommending the panel of three nominees from which the Governor will make appointments to the 31st Judicial Circuit when a vacancy occurs. Currently, there are no women judges in that circuit.

Looking ahead, courts in Kansas City and St. Louis have vacancies and many female applicants. A panel named on March 13, for a vacancy on the Western District Court of Appeals includes the Hon. Jacqueline A. Cook, presiding judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit, Cynthia L. Reams Martin, who is a solo practitioner from Lee’s Summit, and a male attorney. Once this vacancy has been filled, the commission will meet to select, from the same applicant pool, two additional panels of three nominees to fill vacancies created by the resignation of two male judges. Of the 47 applicants for the vacant positions, 13 are women. Currently, Judge Lisa White Hardwick is the only woman on the court.

In St. Louis County, a panel named on April 10, to fill a circuit judge vacancy also includes two women: Associate Circuit JudgeThea Sherry, who has served since 1998, and Pat Reddington, St. Louis County Counselor.

Visit our website for a complete breakdown of the composition of the Missouri courts by gender and race, and be sure to stay tuned for details on the Institute’s upcoming workshop, in partnership with the Women Lawyer’s of Greater St. Louis, to demystify the process of becoming a judge. The program will be held next fall. Details are forthcoming.
APPOINTMENTS

Serving on a public board or commission is an excellent way to put your talents to use in public service without running for office.

If you are interested in serving on a board or commission, contact the Institute at (314) 516-4727 in St. Louis or (816) 235-1409 in Kansas City and visit our website at www.umsl.edu/~iwpl/ to complete a “Public Service Personal Profile” online.

For a list of boards and commissions in Missouri, visit the Governor’s website at http://governor.mo.gov/boards/

In each newsletter, we will list women who have been recently appointed to public policy positions. Please let us know of other women who have joined the public policy process since Nov. 2008.

Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities
Linda S. Houghton
Public Administrator, Daviess County

Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan Board of Trustees
Susan N. Levy
Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan Board of Trustees

Missouri Quality Home Care Council
Elizabeth Magee
Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board
Linda Martinez
Director, Dept. of Economic Development

Mayme Young Miller
Director of Constituent Services
Karen King Mitchell
Director, Department of Revenue
Mary E. Nelson
Director of Boards and Commissions
Nancy M. Nelson
Missouri Veterans Commission

Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan Board of Trustees
Brenda L. Niemeyer
Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities

Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities
Jane A. Rackers
Director, Div. of Professional Registration
Kellie Ritchie
Lafayette County Prosecuting Attorney
Rhonda J. Shimmens
Missouri State Board of Nursing
Janis VanMeter
Missouri Community Service Commission
Deborah K. Wagner
Missouri State Board of Nursing
D. Kimberly Whittle
Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board
Sharon M. Williams
Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities
Phyllis M. Wolfram
Missouri Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders

St. Louis City

Sharon Cunningham
Board of Adjustment
Cherri Elder
Cherokee-Lemp Special Business District
Judith Hanses
Soldier’s Memorial Building Commission
Sharon Lightfoot
Westminster/Lake Special Business District
Janet Meyer
Washington Place Special Business District
Sally Nikolajevich
Forest Park Advisory Board
Tricia Roland-Hamilton
Westminster/Lake Special Business District
Alyse Sabina
Waterman/Lake Special Business District
Irene Soll
Board of Adjustment
Myrrah Rehg
Forest Park Advisory Board
Marilyn Teitelbaum
City Airport Commission

St. Louis County

Carrie Cafazza
Mid-East Area Agency on Aging
Monica Huddleston
Metropolitan Park & Recreation Board
Betty Humphrey
St. Louis Boundary Commission
Andrea Jackson
St. Louis Jefferson Solid Waste Management District
Leslie Tolliver-Rogers
Board of Equalization

Appointment information for Kansas City and Jackson County was unavailable at press time.

SEE YOUR NAME HERE!

It is a great time to update your resume and be a part of the public policy process in Missouri. If you would like to join the list of distinguished women on these pages who serve on public boards and commissions, visit www.umsl.edu/~iwpl and click on “Talent Bank” to complete a Public Service Personal Profile and be added to the Talent Bank database, the Institute’s resource for appointment officials at the state and local levels. You don’t have to be elected to office to make a difference!
Graduate elected to local school board

Sacrificing two evenings in the middle of winter paid off for Joyce McRath this spring. After attending the Institute’s January “Pipeline to Local Office” workshop, McRath was the top vote-getter out of four candidates in the April 7 election, winning one of two spots on the Normandy School Board by a margin of almost 600 votes.

Led by the Institute’s staff and former Pipeline attendees-turned-elected officials, the workshop covered many topics including: How to develop a campaign plan, how to target likely voters and how to raise money. McRath’s enthusiasm certainly caught on, and she even won over some donors during an in-class exercise. The next Pipeline program, “Pipeline to Public Office,” will be held October 23-24 at UMSL. Details are forthcoming.

The Institute hosted a “Victory Party” on April 23 to give Pipeline attendees a chance to reconnect and celebrate McRath’s victory. Way to go, Joyce! 

Women lead key state departments

Several Missouri departments are under the leadership of women appointed by Gov. Jay Nixon.

Karen King Mitchell is Director of the Department of Revenue, the central collection agency for all state revenue. Most Missourian’s interact with the Department of Revenue annually to register motor vehicles, renew driver’s licenses or pay taxes.

Since taking office, Mitchell has led an effort to open up the bidding process for license fee offices, and is also working to bring motor vehicle transactions online.

“As the national economic crisis continues, we’re going to use taxpayer dollars responsibly, and we will look for additional opportunities to save time and money for Missouri families,” she said at the time of her appointment.

A lifelong public servant, Mitchell was deputy attorney general from 1999-2009. She joined the Attorney General’s Office in 1987 and has served as chief council of the Governmental Affairs Division, the largest division in the Attorney General’s Office. She was also State Solicitor from 1996-1999, and was Council for the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services in the late-80s.

Mitchell is a graduate of the University of Missouri and earned a law degree at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

While Mitchell focuses on Revenue, Linda M. Martinez is focused on jobs. Martinez is Director of the Department of Economic Development, which oversees a wide variety of state programs and services designed to create and retain jobs, attract businesses and help communities grow and prosper.

Since her appointment in January, Martinez has worked closely with Gov. Nixon to implement the ShowMe JOBS plan, which focuses on job creation and training, and support for small-business growth.

Prior to joining the administration, Martinez spend 26 years at the Bryan Cave law firm in St. Louis, specializing in financial and development transactions. She earned her bachelor’s degree from MU and is a graduate of the Washington University School of Law.

Directing the Department of Health and Senior Services is former State Rep. Margaret Donnelly. To learn more about Donnelly, check out the story on page 1.

Other executive appointments made by Nixon include former Assistant Attorney General Jane Rackers as director of the Division of Professional Registration, St. Louis attorney Mary Nelson as Director of Boards and Commissions, and former state legislator Gracia Backer as his choice to lead the Division of Employment Security, a post she held during the Holden administration.
Businesswomen meet with Gov. Nixon to discuss jobs initiative

One of Jay Nixon’s first acts as governor was to meet with a few small business owners to discuss his Show-Me JOBS Initiative. The Sue Shear Institute helped identify women to participate in this meeting, which took place in the Governor’s Office just minutes after Nixon was sworn in.

A dozen young entrepreneurs met with the governor and Economic Development Director Linda Martinez, to discuss ways the state can help them grow their businesses.

Women business owners recruited by the Institute included: Megan Bittle, Victoria Gonzalez, Sheila Little-Forrest, and Traci Moore Clay.

Bittle is co-owner and COO of RSI Kitchen & Bath in St. Louis. She is also the president of the National Kitchen & Bath Association’s bi-state chapter.

Gonzalez is president and CEO of the Nidus Center for Scientific Enterprise, a St. Louis firm that helps its clients prepare new technologies (particularly in life sciences) for market.

Little-Forrest is president of Afro World, a company her parents founded in 1970. Little-Forrest grew Afro World from a small mail order company for hair products into a business with Afro-centric clothes and collectibles with customers all over the world.

Clay is the founding principal of Traci Moore Graphics, a design company located in St. Louis since 1997.

UMKC hosts global women leaders

Five international lawyers and judges visited Kansas City in March to discuss women’s empowerment. One stop on their agenda: The Sue Shear Institute’s UMKC office.

The women leaders, who represented India, Israel, Nigeria, St. Lucia, and Burkina Faso, said that they had gotten many ideas from their visits, and needed to sit down and make goals and plans for when they return to their home countries.

Ms. Naomi Garba, from Nigeria, said that throughout the day, she had been encouraged by what she heard and she would go back to Nigeria and perhaps try to run for public office again (she had run some years back, but lost when a group of male politicians formed opposition against her).
Just call her Councilwoman Chrisman! Shear Fellow is sworn-in as newest member in Kirksville

While it can take many years for planted seeds to bear fruit, the accomplishments of 2001 Shear Fellow Carolyn Chrisman prove otherwise. On April 7, Chrisman was elected to the City Council for the city of Kirksville. She replaces Jill McCord, both are graduates of the Sue Shear Institute’s Pipeline to Public Office campaign school.

What makes Chrisman’s accomplishment even more impressive is the fact she is only 26-years-old, and a first-time candidate. Her successful campaign makes her only the second—and the youngest—Fellow to win elected office. Rose Noll-Hilkemeyer, a 2002 Fellow, was elected to the Board of Trustees for the Village of Freeburg, Mo., in 2006.

“The Sue Shear Institute encouraged me to continue involvement in the political arena by supporting candidates, and to be open to the idea of running for office someday myself,” Chrisman said.

Her saga is not unlike that of David and Goliath: She had no committee to raise money. She printed flyers on her own computer, and spent $25 on six homemade signs her supporters insisted she bring to the candidate debate. Her opponent spent thousands on signs, postcards, and door hangers: She emailed her friends, who emailed their friends, who emailed their friends, and so on. Chrisman also applied lessons learned when she attended the Institute’s Pipeline to Public Office program, including how to target voters.

“I went to the County Clerk and got a list of voters from the last two April elections, and went door to door by the highest voter turnout precincts,” she said.

Though she was a first-time candidate, Chrisman is no political neophyte. She has been a member of the Adair County Republicans since 2000. In 2004, she was the campaign manager for State Rep. Bob Behnen’s (R-2) campaign, and served as deputy treasurer for his state senate campaign in 2006.

She became a member of the Kirksville Planning and Zoning Commission at the age of 24, and makes regular trips to St. Louis for Student Legislative Day. She recently represented Mizzou on the Student Legislative Day. She is a computer information technologist for the Missouri Lottery.

Beth Adkins
Lincoln University ('06)

Beth graduated summa cum laude from Lincoln in December with B5 degrees in computer information systems and studio art. She is a computer information technologist for the Missouri Lottery.

Melissa Austin
University of Missouri ('08)

Melissa will graduate from vet school in May. This spring, she is doing an externship at the American Veterinary Medical Association’s (AVMA) Governmental Relations Division in Washington, D.C., where she recently represented Mizzou at the first annual National Veterinary Student Legislative Day.

Laurie Bainter
University of Missouri-St. Louis ('03)

Laurie is the director of student persistence at College Bound, an organization dedicated to breaking the generational cycle of poverty through equal access to higher education. She is responsible for the development of the collegian program, and mentors 34 college students at 20 schools around the country.

Maria Buller (Puck)
University of Central Missouri ('02)

Maria is doing public relations and marketing on a contract basis for non-profit organizations in the Kansas City area.

Evelyn Chamberlain
Missouri S & T ('04)

After finishing her doctorate in Civil (Environmental) Engineering in December, Evelyn moved to Indiana where she works as a Technical Assistance Provider (TAP) for the Rural Community Assistance Program. RCAP is a non-for-profit specializing in environmental issues in rural communities.

Davina Curran
Missouri S & T ('98)

Davina earned a B.S. in psychology and worked four years in the social work field before deciding to pursue a differ-
ent path. She is currently a student and Chemistry tutor at St. Louis Community College. She has been accepted to Saint Louis University and plans to begin a program in Cytotechnology this summer.

♦ Miranda Dorn
University of Missouri-St. Louis (’06)
Miranda teaches 9th grade English and 11th and 12th grade creative writing at Maplewood-Richmond Heights High School. She is also pursuing a master’s degree at UMSL.

♦ Olivia Drumm
University of Missouri-St. Louis (’01)
Olivia is currently in her second semester of graduate school at Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas where she is pursuing a MS in Art Therapy.

♦ Lindsay Epstein
Missouri S&T (’03)
Lindsay is working her dream job: building satellites, rockets and manned space flight in the DC area. She is also working on a masters in space studies from American Military University.

♦ Carissa Ewing (Sims)
Southeast Missouri State University (’02)
Carissa lives in Kansas City with her husband and is a recruiter for a non-profit hospital.

♦ Jamilah Fagbene
Lincoln University (’04)
Jamilah is a confidential assistant to the Under Secretary for Rural Development at the USDA. She earned a masters in public administration from American University in December.

♦ Leddy Glenn
University of Central Missouri (’01)
For the past three years, Leddy has worked for the Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault (MOCSA) in Kansas City. She is currently the coordinator of education and outreach services, giving professional and community education presentations and supervising the youth educators who go out into the schools to talk with pre-k to 12 graders about various topics related to sexual violence.

♦ Claire Gorman
University of Central Missouri (’05)
Claire will earn her juris doctor from St. Thomas University School of Law in Miami Gardens, Fl. in May.

Shear Fellows living in Washington, DC, got together in January to network and share Academy stories. The group represented six classes and six different universities. Top row, (from left): Amanda Trainor (SEMO’04), Suzanne Struglinski Broadfield (MU’98), Jamilah Fagbene (Lincoln ’04), Lindsay Epstein (MS&T ’03). Seated: Lina Khan (Truman ’06), Melissa Sinden (MU ’01), Sarah Jackson (MU ’03), Jumoke Balogun (UMKC ’08).

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♦ Claire Gorman
University of Central Missouri (’05)
Claire will earn her juris doctor from St. Thomas University School of Law in Miami Gardens, Fl. in May.

• Jessica Gunder (Shaw)
University of Missouri (’03)
This summer, Jessica will finish up a two-year clerkship with U.S. District Judge E. Richard Webber in St. Louis. She will relocate to Washington, DC, in the fall, to work for the Department of Justice.

• Erin Hamilton
University of Missouri-Kansas City (’07)
Erin will graduate in May with a master of arts in liberal studies, with a focus on women’s studies. She works full-time at a bank, and part-time at a domestic violence shelter in North Kansas City.

• Rachel Harris
Southeast Missouri State University (’08)
Rachel was nominated and selected to be a part of a contingent from Southeast who traveled to Washington, DC over spring break to attend seminars at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). The group will host a conference in April and present their own original research. Rachel is getting ready to start an academic distinction project within the Political Science Department, and plans to take the LSAT in June.

• Kristin Jackson
Missouri State University (’03)
For three years, Kristin served as a legislative assistant for Congressman Dan Burton (R-IN), and staffed the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee (the Americas section of the House Foreign Affairs Committee). She is currently living in Madrid, Spain and studying Spanish so she can achieve her long-term goal of promoting micro business development in Latin America.

• Jessica Johnson
Missouri State University (’07)
Jessica will graduate this summer, and will be doing a summer internship at the Department of State in Washington, DC before starting a prestigious Presidential Management Fellowship.

• Yorba Johnson
Truman State University (’05)
Yorba is a third grade teacher at Meramec Elementary School in Clayton, Mo. This is her fourth year of teaching, and her second year in Clayton.

• Michelle Landers
Truman State University (’08)
In February, Michelle testified before the Senate Progress and Development Committee in support of Sen. Joan Bray’s equal pay bill (SB50). Michelle recently joined a local service sorority at Truman, Tau Lambda Sigma, and volunteers at Manor Care Retirement Center and Adair County Victims Services in her free time.

• Brianna Lennon
Truman State University (’06)
Brianna is pursuing a law degree at Mizzou Law School and a master’s in public policy at the Truman School of Public Affairs. This summer, she will be working as a research fellow at the National Council on Teacher Quality in Washington, DC.

• Cori Lock
Missouri S&T (’00)
Cori is a software engineer on the SolutionWorks Team for Cerner Corporation in Kansas City.

• Carrie Maher (Freese)
Missouri State University (’01)
Carrie recently relocated from California to Chicago to start a new job with Gerson Lehrman Group, an independent primary
research firm serving business and investment leaders. She is the Business Development Manager of the Life Sciences Division for the Midwest Region. Prior to the move, Carrie worked for Cerner for five years.

♦ Rachel Meyers (Ohmer)
Truman State University ('04)
Rachel graduated from Truman with a master’s of accountancy in 2006 and works for RubinBrown, a St. Louis public accounting firm, in the assurance services department.

♦ Victoria Moger
Missouri State University ('05)
Victoria has been offered a graduate assistantship at Missouri State where she plans to attend graduate school in the fall. She is currently living in Lexington, Va., managing the colonization efforts of a new chapter of her sorority, Alpha Delta Pi.

♦ Jessica Polk
Missouri State University ('08)
After finishing her MPA in May, Jessica is moving to Washington, DC for a Presidential Management Fellowship (PMF) with the Drug Enforcement Administration. The purpose of the PMF Program is to attract to the Federal service outstanding men and women from a variety of academic disciplines and career paths who have a clear interest in, and commitment to, excellence in the leadership and management of public policies and programs.

♦ Farheen Qurashi
University of Missouri-Kansas City ('06)
Farheen will take a year off from medical school to begin a fellowship in DC. She will be working for the Jack Rutledge Legislative Director of the American Medical Student Association.

♦ Sukmeke Rainey
Lincoln University ('99)
Sukmeke is a producer for "First Business," a nationally syndicated financial television program based in Chicago (her hometown).

♦ Amy Davis Salladay
Truman State University ('98)
In one of the more clever "out of office" responses we have ever seen, a recent email sent to Amy resulted in the following message: "The user is currently on vacation and is unable to respond to your email. They will be able to read your mail after vacation."

The date given for return is: NeVer." Amy, if you’re out there, please phone home.

♦ Candace Simpson
University of Missouri ('03)
Candace is living in Cincinnati, Oh., and is considering a career in logistics with the U.S. Air Force.

♦ Melissa Sinden
University of Missouri ('01)
Melissa is the Senior Director of Government Relations for the American Academy of Audiology. Prior to her current position, Melissa worked for the American Chiropractic Association.

♦ Amanda Trainor
Southeast Missouri State University ('04)
Amanda works for the Railway Supply Institute in Washington, DC, and goes to Capitol Hill on a regular basis promoting a balanced transportation policy and economic recovery for the railroads. She has also joined an organization called Women In Transportation Services (WTS) as a way of meeting other women in the field.

♦ Jenna Tune
Missouri S&T ('06)
Jenna will finish her master’s degree in geological engineering this year, and plans to move from her hometown of Rolla. She had a baby in December - a boy - and reports that “being a mom is definitely my greatest accomplishment to date.”

♦ Kathleen Turner
Lincoln University ('01)
Kathleen is a PhD candidate in English at Northern Illinois University where she is also a teaching assistant in the English department. In addition to teaching composition and literature classes at NIU, she is also an adjunct instructor at a nearby community college. She completed a graduate certificate in women’s studies, and is currently working on her dissertation about depictions of marginalized women in film and literature.

♦ Traci Walker
Missouri S&T ('99)
Since 2000, Traci has worked as a contract officer with the federal government; first in Kansas City and for the past five years, in Washington, DC. In November, she was hired as a Senior Contract Specialist in the Office of Administration, Executive Office of the President (EOP). Traci recently completed a 9-month USDA fellowship in Women in Public Life.

Graduate School Executive Leadership Program, and she is pursuing a masters of science in organizational leadership from Regis University- College for Public Leadership.

♦ Kate Winzenburger
Southeast Missouri State Univ. ('06)
Kate graduated from Southeast last May and is pursuing a masters in social work with school certification at SIU-Carbondale. She is a student worker at the Assistant U.S. Attorney’s Office in Cape Girardeau, and is doing a practicum at Union County Counseling Services in Anna, IL.

♦ Lauren Yoggerst
Southeast Missouri State Univ. ('04)
Lauren is finishing up her master’s degree in clinical psychology at Eastern Illinois University and is cautiously optimistic about entering the job market!

With over 450 Academy graduates, we’ve outgrown our space for updates! For more good news about Shear Fellows, their accomplishments and activities, visit www.umsl.edu/~iwpl/leadership/fellow-updates.html
Yes, I want to support the Institute’s mission in helping women participate fully in public policy decision making arenas. Please place me on your mail list for notice of upcoming events and to receive the Woman Watch newsletter.

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