Marge Schramm to keynote Leadership Academy Dinner

Marge Schramm’s experience as an junior high school teacher prepared her well for her public policy career.
Like a classroom, the public policy arena works best with clear communication, patience and commitment to the success of the group. And yes, politicians can sometimes behave like children.
Schramm will discuss “Navigating the Leadership Superhighway” and share her experiences as mayor of Kirkwood and now as the first woman to chair the Missouri Highway and Transportation Department as keynote speaker at the 21st Century Leadership Academy keynote dinner on Thursday, May 26.
The program will be held at the Junior League of St. Louis and begin with a cash bar at 6 p.m. (To make sure you receive an invitation, go to www.umsl.edu/~iwpl and add your name and address to our mailing list.)
Schramm grew up on a farm in southeast Missouri. She began her career in the Kirkwood School District teaching seventh-graders and later high school. In 1980 Schramm said she agreed to run in her first election for Kirkwood City Council after heeding the pleas of her friends. Not since women won the right to vote had there been a women elected to the council, Schramm said.
In 1992 she ran for mayor and won. After eight years as mayor, Schramm was appointed by then-Governor Mel Carnahan to the Highway Commission. Schramm said she agreed to run in her first election for Kirkwood City Council after heeding the pleas of her friends. Not

Kelly Anthony, 21st Century Leadership Academy Class of ’99, wins first Amethyst Award
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Institute Director Vivian Eveloff recruited Schramm for the position on the highway commission.
“We were using the model of a CEO - someone used to making decisions with large price tags,” Eveloff said.
“Mayor Schramm had this experience as well as understanding that the public is the customer.”
Eveloff remembers when she first called Schramm to discuss the position. “Her response was ‘there must be somebody better than me,'” Eveloff said.
“She really has very little ego for someone who has had so many successes. She’s more interested in sound public policy than personal power and self-importance.”

INSIDE:

Governor Matt Blunt appoints women to key cabinet and staff posts
Pipeline campaign school grads fare well in April elections
Hogan appointed to St. Louis City associate circuit bench
Are you on our list of 2004 donors? Plan now to be on the list for 2005.

We’re Moving in the Right Direction...

At least two St. Louis-area municipalities have women mayors for the first time: Donna Morrow in O’Fallon in St. Charles County and Julie Morgan in Rock Hill in St. Louis County.

The certification of Christine Gregoire as governor in Washington brings the total number of women governors up to eight out of 50, within one of the record, nine.

For more information about these and other women policy makers in the headlines, visit “Women News” on the Institute’s website at www.umsl.edu/~iwpl
NAMES IN THE NEWS

Johnson elected House Minority Whip

State Representative Connie “Lajoyce” Johnson was elected House Minority Whip for the 2005 legislative session. First elected in 2000 and now serving her third term, Johnson represents the 61st district in the city of St. Louis.

Emerson leads National Prayer Breakfast

U.S. Rep. Jo Ann Emerson, R-Cape Girardeau, has become the first woman to chair the National Prayer Breakfast in its 53-year history. The ecumenical event was attended by President George Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush as well as 3,000 others.

Two Women join Secretary of State’s Office

Secretary of State Robin Carnahan has appointed Lesley M. Winslow as Deputy Secretary of State for Elections and Barbara J. Wood as General Counsel and Director of Administrative Rules. Winslow has served as St. Louis County director of elections, as an attorney for the Missouri Supreme Court and also in private practice. Previously, Wood served as assistant attorney general and as general counsel for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

Ferrick to direct St. Louis County public defender’s office

Nanci Ferrick became the new district director for the St. Louis County public defender’s office. Ferrick previously served as an assistant public defender and assistant district director.

Still returns to Attorney General’s office

Mary Still has returned to Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon’s office as senior policy adviser. Previously, Still served as Gov. Bob Holden’s chief spokeswoman and before that was director of policy and communications.

Mahoney heads Lincoln University

Carolyn Mahoney took over as Lincoln University President on Feb. 1, succeeding David Henson who resigned. Mahoney was provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina.

Schramm becomes first woman to chair Highway Department

Institute board member and former Kirkwood Mayor Marge Schramm has become the first woman to chair the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission. As one of the two most senior members of the commission, Schramm will rotate between the chair and vice chair position with Bill McKenna.

Netzel directs Johnson County Crime Lab

Linda Netzel has been promoted to director of the Johnson County Crime Lab in suburban Kansas City. Previously, Netzel was a supervisor at the lab, where she has worked since 1993.

Franco appointed KC Municipal Judge

Elena Franco has been appointed Kansas City Municipal Court judge. Franco, a native of Cuba, serves on the Missouri Advisory Racial Profiling Commission. Previously, she practiced criminal defense law.

Presley elected to chair Tourism Board

Raeanne Presley of Branson was unanimously elected to chair the Missouri Tourism Commission by her fellow commissioners.

Bush names women to direct White House Communications, Office of Personnel

President George Bush has named Nicolle Devenish as White House communications director. Devenish served in the same position for the president’s re-election campaign. Bush also nominated Linda Springer, a former financial manager at the Office of Management and Budget as director of the Office of Personnel Management.

Gregoire declared Washington governor

After three recounts, the country now has eight women governors. Christine Gregoire was finally certified the winner of the contentious Washington governor’s race Dec. 30 with a 129-vote margin. Five months after the election, her opponent’s challenge is still making its way through the courts.

For more information about these and other women policy makers in the headlines, visit “Women News” on the Institute’s website at www.umsl.edu/~iwpl
Six Pipeline graduates win local races

Graduates of the 2005 Pipeline to Local Office include the new mayor of O’Fallon, Donna Morrow; new Clayton School Board member Rashda “Sonny” Buttar; and new Meramec Valley School Board member Kristina Starr. The class maintained the Institute’s 50 percent success rate with six of 12 candidates winning their races.

Other winners included Ruth Springer, elected to the Olivette City Council, Dee Mogerma, re-elected to the Parkway School Board, and Nancy Hartman who was elected to the Normandy School Board after her appointment to fill an unexpired term.

In addition, 2003 Pipeline participant Pam Fogarty was re-elected mayor of Dardenne Prairie. Classmate Theresa Lynch was re-elected to the Creve Coeur City Council and later elected its president by the other board members.

The 2005 Pipeline to Local Office class was one of the biggest yet, with a total of 22 women participating.

Both Starr and Buttar were the top vote-getters in multi-seat, multi-candidate races. Starr was one of three winners out of a field of seven. Buttar was one of six candidates including two incumbents vying for three seats.

“The class was wonderful,” Buttar said. “It gave me a depth of understanding that I didn’t have before.”

Starr said the skills she learned made her opponents sit up and take notice.

“I have been able to utilize some great strategies thanks to my participation in the Pipeline seminar,” Starr said. “People have been amazed at how efficient and dedicated I have been to my campaign.”

Held annually, usually the last week of January, the class outlines the process of running for school board, county council, mayor or other local office. Like the other classes in the Pipeline series, the all-female faculty includes office holders and campaign experts who generously volunteer their time. This year’s faculty included former St. Louis Community College District Trustee Mikki Brewster, University City School Board Member Joy Lieberman and two Pipeline graduates: Brentwood Alderwoman Katherine Jepsen, and Richmond Heights City Council Member Camille Greenwald.

Institute Manager Dayna Stock saluted all 12 candidates. “Any woman who puts herself forward to run for public office is providing a role model for others to follow. That’s a real public service in itself.”

The Institute celebrated all the candidates on April 26 with a reception.

Women legislators discuss issues at annual forum

The late Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm said that she found being a woman more of a barrier to her political career and in her historic 1972 presidential campaign than being black.

Despite the passage of more than 30 years, challenges continue to exist, according to four women legislators who participated in the third annual Statehouse Sisters program at the University of Missouri – St. Louis on Feb. 4.

More than 50 people attended the panel discussion to mark Black History month and remember Chisholm, the first woman from a major party to run for president. Chisholm died in January.

The St. Louis panel was moderated by Sen. Maida Coleman. Other panelists included Reps. Esther Haywood, Robin Wright Jones and Juanita Head Walton.

The program in Kansas City took place on Feb. 25 at the Bloch School with Institute board member Gayle Holliday moderating. Panelists were Reps. Sharon Sanders Brooks and Melba Curls.

Brooks brought along several books on Chisholm and wore a campaign button, telling the audience that Chisholm had been a great inspiration to her.
APPOINTMENTS

In each newsletter, we will list women who have been recently appointed to public policy positions. Please let us know of any other women who have joined the public policy process since November 2004.

The Sue Shear Institute works closely with the Governor’s office, as well as with appointing authorities in Kansas City and St. Louis, to serve as a resource and facilitate the growing participation of women on public boards and commissions.

If you are interested in serving on a public board or commission and would like to become a member of the Talent Bank, contact the Institute at (314) 516-4727 in St. Louis or (816) 235-1409 in Kansas City to request a “Public Service Personal Profile.” You can also download a Profile or complete one on-line at www.umsl.edu/~iwpl/

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

St. Louis City

There are no new appointments to report at this time.

St. Louis County

Mary Elizabeth Dorsey
Board of Equalization

Dolores J. Gunn, M.D.
Director, St. Louis County Health Department

Lindsey Swanick
Director, Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Jackson County

Appointment information for Jackson County was unavailable at press time.

Kansas City

Shawna Bligh
Environmental Management Commission

Faith Brennan
Environmental Management Commission

Marsha Campbell
Municipal Officials Ethics Commission

Susan Druen
Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Stephanie Ellison, MD
Emergency Physicians Advisory Board

Bridget Guth
Board of Zoning Adjustment

Janice Kelly
Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities

Patrice Manuel
Fairness in City Contracts

Mary Kay McPhee
Truman Med Center Board of Directors

CiCi Rojas
Convention and Visitors Bureau

Sekeli Salima
Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Regina Staves
Human Resources Board

Lynda Stufflebean
Clay County University of Missouri Extension Council

State of Missouri

Debra Adams
Advisory Commission for Dental Hygienists

Anne O’Connell Albrecth
Missouri State Park Advisory Board

Karen Allen
Missouri Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities

Cynthia Bald
State Board of Cosmetology

Alice Ann Bartlett
Labor and Industrial Relations Commission

Martha Boswell
Coordinating Board for Higher Education

Kathryn Braden
State Soil and Water Districts Commission

Cynthia Brinkley
Government Reform Commission

Gloria J. Carter-Hicks
Missouri Training and Employment Council

Debra L. Cochran
State Board of Senior Services

Jenise Comer
State Committee for Social Workers

Linda Curbow
Board of Examiners for Hearing Instrument Specialists

Jeanne Daffron
Life Sciences Research Committee

Cathy Dean
Government Reform Commission

Linda A. Englemann
Board of Examiners for Hearing Instrument Specialists

Donna J. English
Missouri Head Injury Advisory Council

Michelle T. Esswein
Missouri Women’s Council

Kathleen M. Fagin
Governor’s Council on Disability

Angela McCormick Franks
St. Louis City Election Board

Carol Freeman
Advisory Committee for 911 Service Oversight

Margaret Freeman
Missouri Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities

Judith Haggard
Life Sciences Research Committee

Barbara Hayden
State Fair Commission

Linda Hickam-Fountain
Missouri Veterinary Medical Board

Christel Johnson
Advisory Council for Prof. Physical Therapists

Peggy Loman
Advisory Committee for 911 Service Oversight

Arlene McClendon
State Board of Barber Examiners

Patrice O’Neil Mugg
Children’s Trust Fund Board

Teri Murray
Missouri State Board of Nursing

Tina Odo
Missouri Public Entity Risk Management Board of Trustees

Kathleen Osborn
Government Reform Commission

Jeanne Patterson
Coordinating Board for Higher Education

Carolyn S. Pinegar
Southwest Missouri State University Board of Governors

Sharon Rohrbach
Government Reform Commission

CiCi Rojas
Government Reform Commission

Charity F. Shelton
Missouri Head Injury Advisory Council

Donna Beck Smith
Children’s Trust Fund Board

Toni R. Smith, O.D.
State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts

Cathy E. Stroud
Government Reform Commission

Peggy Tuter Pearl
Credit Union Commission

Joyce Wood
Government Reform Commission

Anita Yeckel
St. Louis County Election Board
Governor Matt Blunt appointed Elizabeth B. Hogan in April to serve as Associate Circuit Judge of the 22nd Circuit in St. Louis City.

Hogan is an attorney for the Voices of Children, formerly St. Louis City CASA. She was previously a partner with the Hogan Law Firm.

She earned her law degree from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan and holds a B.A. from DePauw University in Indiana.

She will fill the vacancy created by Edward W. Sweeney’s appointment to Circuit Judge in the 22nd Circuit.

Hogan’s appointment returns the composition of the officers of the court to nearly 38 percent women. The court now includes six women on the circuit bench and five women on the associate circuit bench.

With Sweeney’s elevation from associate judge to the circuit bench, replacing Judge Patricia Cohen who was appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, the ratio of women circuit judges declined to 25 percent.

Talent Bank member goes to work

Institute Talent Bank member Deb Dubin (center), appointed last year to the Ameren Community Development Corporation Board, joins Gov. Matt Blunt and UMSL Chancellor Tom George as the first Economic Development Grants were awarded, including one for UMSL Information Technology Incubator.

Prior to her appointment, Branson served as the Division of Credit Unions Director from 1987 to 1993. Most recently, she worked as President of the Missouri State Credit Union. Craighead previously served as political affairs director for the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

Katharine Barondeau leads the Division of Employment Security and former State Representative Pat Secrest is the Director of Workers’ Compensation in the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations.

While in the House, Secrest became an authority on workers’ compensation issues, Blunt said.

Governor Blunt has also tapped several women to fill leadership posts on his staff: Lynne Angle is the Director of Operations and Constituent Services, and Carolyn Loethen is Director of Scheduling.
In March, the Institute hosted another group of women leaders participating in the International Visitor Leadership Program of the World Affairs Council of St. Louis.

Sponsored by the U.S. State Department, the program includes individuals selected by American embassy officials in more than 120 countries. Participants travel throughout the country to share their experiences and learn about public policy and culture in the U.S. Each visit is tailored to the group’s interests.

The Institute hosts many visits from foreign leaders each year. This particular group included women from Cyprus, Namibia, Mexico and Sri Lanka. In addition, Dr. Eunsoon Oh, a visiting professor from Korea, sat in on the discussion.

“The St. Louis itineraries have received high marks from the U.S. State Department, thanks in part to the participation of the staff of the Institute,” said Barbara Morley, director of the program in St. Louis.

With state budget constraints more severe than ever, our donors are increasingly important to the ongoing work of the Institute. Thanks again to our loyal 2004 donors!
First Shear Fellow elected to office

2002 Shear Fellow Mary Rose Noll-Hilkemeyer in April became the first Leadership Academy graduate elected to public office.

Noll-Hilkemeyer was sworn in April 12 as the only woman on the village board of trustees in Freeburg, Mo., a town of 423 between Jefferson City and Rolla.

Noll-Hilkemeyer credits the confidence she gained at the Academy with helping her take this step.

“Many women since then have told me that they are glad I was brave enough to attempt this,” Noll-Hilkemeyer said. “I don’t know why they say brave...I guess I will find out.”

Bursting with ideas, Noll-Hilkemeyer said she is trying to “pace herself” so as not to overwhelm the board and her small community.

In addition to her new position as trustee, Noll-Hilkemeyer will continue to oversee the children’s summer reading program she started in Freeburg three years ago.

“It’s very exciting that one of our graduates has taken the message of the Leadership Academy to heart and found a way to serve her community,” said Institute Manager and 21st Century Leadership Academy Director Dayna Stock. “We’re obviously very proud.”

Disability rights advocate wins first Amethyst Award

The 21st Century Leadership Academy helped open her eyes to the strength and of power women in the public sector, said the 2005 Amethyst Award winner.

In four short years and two election cycles, this year’s winner, 1999 Shear Fellow Kelly Anthony, has distinguished herself by breaking barriers to the elections process for people with disabilities.

As director of the Missouri Disability Vote Project (DVP) at Paraquad, Inc., Anthony leads one of the most recognized statewide, nonpartisan, grassroots projects in the country to close the political participation gap between people with disabilities and the general population.

It was her work with Paraquad that helped Anthony win the first Amethyst Award.

Underwritten by St. Louis philanthropist Ruth Siteman, the Amethyst Award recognizes an outstanding 21st Century Leadership Academy graduate with an unrestricted $1,000 cash award.

Sandy Kauffman, a member of the Amethyst Award selection committee and the Institute’s Kansas City Advisory board, said several of the dozen award applications were strong.

“But Kelly’s jumped out at me,” Kauffman said. “She is truly using her abilities to help people with disabilities.”

In her Award application, Kelly said she also learned the power of mentoring relationships at the Academy, recognizing Missouri Sen. Joan Bray, for whom Anthony interned in 1999.

“I have learned to take the work that I do personally, and to truly be what I do, both in work and life. To me, being a community organizer is about realizing the dream most people have at one point or another - being able to change the world.”

The disabled are the largest minority community in the country, but the least mobilized voting bloc. The U.S. Census indicates that 65 percent of people with disabilities live below the federal poverty level, and are two to three times more likely to live in poverty than the non-disabled population.

Under Anthony’s direction, 19 organizations engaged in a sophisticated Get-Out-The-Vote process in the 2002 election, resulting in a 17 percent increase in voter turnout statewide. For the first time in Missouri history, people with disabilities out-voted the general, non-disabled population by 11 percent. In 2004, 45 organizations were mobilized, over 215,000 potential voters were identified statewide, and major polls suggest that people with disabilities voted in record numbers in 2004 in Missouri and around the country. The Missouri DVP has resulted in the development of one of the most effective voting blocs in the Missouri, and has become a model for other states. Kelly has provided consultation to efforts in twelve states, including Illinois.

Through her work on behalf of the disability community, Anthony also led a coalition that was successful in mandating through state law that Missouri complete a statewide survey of the accessibility of polling places on Election Day. The results showed that 71 percent of polling places in Missouri have some barrier to voting for people with disabilities. In 2004 she was asked to testify before the federal Elections Assistance Commission as an expert on elections procedures.

Missouri Senator Joan Bray summed up the magnitude of Kelly’s efforts by saying, “Thanks to Kelly, Missouri’s disability community has come a long way in getting the visibility and attention they deserve.”

Kelly serves on the Board of Directors for the National Council on Independent Living and the Board of Trustees for the American Civil Liberties Union of Eastern Missouri. She is a 1999 Shear Fellow, and a 2000 graduate of Truman State University.

Anthony will receive her award at the 21st Century Leadership Academy keynote dinner on Thursday, May 26, 2005.
It is always exciting to receive “progress reports” from Leadership Academy alums, and we are proud to share their accomplishments with you! (Note: The number in parenthesis represents year of participation in the Leadership Academy.)

♦ Lisa Althoff
Lincoln University (’99)
Lisa graduated from Lincoln University as Valedictorian with a B.S. in psychology in 2001, and hopes to complete her MBA at Williams Wood University in August. In the meantime, she is working for an organization that serves the uninsured populations in the Central Missouri area, and is the Program Director for the SAFE KIDS Coalition in Central Missouri. SAFE KIDS is a worldwide program based in Washington, DC that works to prevent unintentional injuries of children.

♦ LeAnn Beaty
Southwest Missouri State Univ. (’02)
LeAnn is in her last semester of required coursework for the Ph.D. program in Political Science with an emphasis in Public Administration at Northern Illinois University, and hopes to take comps in the fall. She was recently awarded a Public Sector Fellowship Management Fellowship to do an internship at the Oregon Department of Corrections for the summer.

♦ Ana Castro Bernal
Southwest Missouri State Univ. (’04)
After completing an intersession trimester at Lal Bahadur Institute of Management in New Delhi, India, Ana graduated in Fall 2004 with a double major in International Business Management and Spanish Literature. She is currently participating in the formation of a Hispanic Immigrant Coalition in Springfield which seeks to unify all of the available organizations and resources for the Hispanic population in the community.

♦ Melissa Brittain
Truman State University (’99)
Missie is finishing up her graduate work at Central Michigan University and will earn her Ph.D. in organizational behavior in December. In the meantime, she is entertaining several promising job opportunities with consulting firms around the country.

♦ Raegan Buatte
Univ. of Missouri — Kansas City (’04)
Raegan is taking some time off from graduate school to enjoy her new assignment as mom to Khary (“kah-REE”), who was born in March.

♦ Angela Burden
Southwest Missouri State Univ. (’04)
Angela completed her B.A. in philosophy in December, and is currently working on a masters degree in administrative studies at SMSU. She will begin a graduate assistantship in the Study Abroad office in the fall, and is applying for several federal internships overseas. She also joined a rock band called Sylas.

♦ Jennifer Byrd
Southwest Missouri State Univ. (’02)
Jennifer is at KU, finishing up her master’s thesis on media coverage of white and African-American NFL quarterbacks. She spent last semester interning at the National Journal’s CongressDaily in D.C.

♦ Marcia Chatelain
University of Missouri — Columbia (’99)
Marcia is in her third year of graduate school at Brown University studying Women’s Political Leadership in the Department of American Civilization. This summer, she will once again return to UMC as a faculty member for the Missouri Scholars Academy, a summer program for 330 gifted high school juniors.

♦ Beth Cross
University of Missouri — St. Louis (’04)
Beth has one more class and two semesters of field experience and then she will graduate with her master’s in school counseling. She is working full-time and was a member of the selection committee for the 2005 Shear Fellows from UMSL.

♦ Traci Daffer
Truman State University (’01)
A student at UMKC law school, Traci will be going to China for 3 weeks after finals to take a class on Chinese law. After she returns, she will be working for Judge Vernon Scoville of the 16th Circuit.

♦ Lindsay Epstein
University of Missouri — Rolla (’03)
Lindsay recently changed her major from mechanical engineering to metallurgical engineering and plans to graduate in May 2006. She is currently working on obtaining a camp counselor position at UMR for the summer.

♦ Renessa Foronda
Truman State University (’04)
Renessa is taking in the culture, the sights, and the food while studying in Florence, Italy for the spring semester. This summer she will be interning in the PR Department at A.G. Edwards in St. Louis.

♦ Heather (Ingrum) Gipson
Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City (’00)
Heather is officially half way through law school at UMKC. She will spend the early part of the summer visiting her husband in South Korea, and is looking forward to his return to Whitman Air Force Base, scheduled for July.
Holley Hansen  
*Truman State University (’99)*  
Holley is finishing her third year at the University of Iowa’s Political Science Department, slowly working toward a doctorate in comparative politics. She recently received a FLAS (Foreign Language Area Studies) Fellowship, which will underwrite a trip to Moscow to study Russian this summer.

Rebecca Henderson  
*Central Missouri State Univ. (’04)*  
Rebecca is graduating from CMSU summa cum laude with bachelor of science degrees in political science, criminal justice, and psychology. She was awarded a merit scholarship to continue her studies at Michigan State University, and will begin law school there in the fall.

Joy Jackson  
*Truman State University (’00)*  
Joy and her husband are most likely moving back to Columbia (from Chicago) in June, so Joy is on the job hunt for a law-related job in the Mid-Missouri area. In the meantime, she is keeping busy in her new role as mother to Sophia (Shear Fellow 2025?), whose on-line guestbook was signed by none other than President Bush.

Brandy Johnson  
*Southwest Missouri State Univ. (’04)*  
This semester Brandy is a student teacher at Truman High School in Independence, Mo., where she is teaching English II at the sophomore level. Recently, she was named as one of 20 outstanding English Education majors to receive the Robert J. Gref award, given by the Missouri Association of Teachers of English at its spring conference at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach.

Mary Grace Lewandowski  
*University of Missouri—St. Louis (’00)*  
Mary Grace is a senior planner at the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (Al.) transportation planning projects. In December, she took on a new role as “mom” when she and her husband welcomed Alexander Cole Brinkman to the family.

Katina Metzidakis  
*Leadership Academy Intern (’03)*  
After graduating with honors from Washington University with majors in French and Spanish and a minor in political science, Katina moved to Santiago, Chile to teach English. In May, she will attend the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University in NYC.

Rachel Ohmer  
*Truman State University (’04)*  
Rachel is graduating from Truman this spring with a BS in Accounting. She has a summer audit internship at KPMG in St. Louis, and next fall she starts graduate school at Truman to begin working on a Masters of Accountancy.

Melissa Patterson  
*Univ. of Missouri—Kansas City (’03)*  
Melissa is a graduate assistant in the office of Minority Student Affairs at UMKC. She will complete a master’s degree in higher education administration next May, and plans to start law school in Fall, 2006.

Heather Pierce  
*Truman State University (’02)*  
Heather is attending graduate school at Mizzou where she is working on a Ph.D. in Political Science. She is a research assistant (researching European political institutions/parties) and a teaching assistant for an undergraduate comparative politics course. Heather was recently chosen to receive the Robin Remington Award, which honors an outstanding first-year graduate student woman in Political Science.

Jessica Post  
*Truman State University (’01)*  
Last fall, Jessica helped elect Ken Salazar to the U.S. Senate and reelect Colorado Congressman Mark Udall while serving as the Regional Director for Boulder for Colorado Victory 2004, the Democrats’ coordinated campaign. She currently resides in St. Louis, where she is a consultant for Anheuser-Busch as the Grassroots Director for the Ferguson-Institute teacher for the Ferguson-Roots Director for the southern region.

Sara Quick  
*Southwest Missouri State Univ. (’03)*  
Sarah is completing a graduate assistantship as a Youth Specialist at Missouri Mentoring Partnership, an organization that provides mentors and support for at-risk youth and parenting and pregnant teens. She will graduate with her master’s in social work in May, and is looking for a job in the Springfield, Mo., area.

Christine Schlosser  
*Truman State University (’04)*  
Christine was recently elected Historian of Phi Kappa Phi, and was also accepted into the Omicron Delta Kappa honor society. This summer, she will be one of four Truman students participating in the Washington Center Internship program, which places students in non-profit interest groups in D.C.

Danielle Siembieda  
*Univ. of Missouri—Columbia (’99)*  
Danielle is a public speaker for the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in San Diego, and is consulting for social justice organizations. In her free time, Danielle is apprenticing with a furniture designer, and is starting art classes in order to pursue a master’s in Fine Arts.

Jennifer Suedmeyer  
*University of Missouri—St. Louis (’00)*  
Jennifer graduated from Baylor Law School on April 30th and is in the process of relocating to the Kansas City area. She is looking for law work and helping a pastor plant a church in the Lee’s Summit area.

Amanda Trainor  
*Southeast Missouri State Univ. (’04)*  
Amanda is graduating from Southeast and hopes to work for a year before pursuing a master’s in public policy. She recently attended the National Model United Nations Conference in New York.

Gannet Tseggai  
*University of Missouri—Columbia (’02)*  
Gannet recently started a new position as deputy press secretary for Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy. She reports that a fellow Fellow is also “spinning” in the Capitol, 2003 Fellow Sarah Jackson (UMC), who is deputy press secretary for Congressman Pete Sessions of Texas.

Lisa (Schroeder) Wayne  
*Truman State University (’03)*  
Lisa is pursuing a master’s degree in education at UMSL and is a regular substitute teacher for the Ferguson-Florissant School District. Her husband is currently stationed in Korea but Lisa is looking forward to joining him on his next tour—three years in Germany, beginning in August.
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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