This year’s 21st Century Leadership Academy, May 22-27, 2016, hosted an incredible group of women students from seven Missouri public universities. These 29 accomplished “Fellows” all successfully completed the program and learned a great deal in the process. State Representative, Margo McNeil was the Faculty-in-Residence this year. Representative McNeil was an integral part of the program, hosting panels and mentoring our Fellows throughout the week. She worked tirelessly to facilitate every aspect of the program and was instrumental in the mock legislative session held in the Missouri Senate Chamber. The Fellows debated the No Excuse Absentee Voting Bill (HB 2451) sponsored by Representative McNeil.

The highlights of this year’s agenda included panels such as What Does Leadership Look Like? by Wendy Werner that featured a leadership “personality” quiz which was both fun and informative. For those Fellows more interested in a “behind the scenes” role in public life, a lobbying and advocacy panel featuring moderator: Legislative Affairs Specialist at Enterprise Holdings, Monica Combest, and two advocates in the health care industry, Ellie Glenn from St. Louis Children’s Hospital, and Jessica Pabst from SSM Health Care. They described their role in influencing public policy and tips for swaying the minds of policymakers.

(continued on page 2)
(continued from page 1)

Representative Margo McNeil and Retired Circuit Court Judge, Joan Burger, helped the Fellows navigate the protocol for debating a bill in the State House and Senate, and specifically, both the pros and cons of the No Excuses Absentee Voting Bill (HB 2451), enabling the Fellows to properly debate the issue.

Other panels included topics such as the development of resilience and persistence as a leader and maintaining the appropriate balance for individuals within all disciplines. The salary negotiating panel moderated by Director of the Executive Leadership Consortium, Malaika Horne, and featuring Treasurer of the City of St. Louis, Tishaura Jones, and Associate Director of UMSL Career Services, Emily Rapko McEneny, was extremely popular. It offered practical advice in salary negotiation and making the broader community aware of the financial power of women.

Another highlight of the week was the “Affinity Dinners” which provided an opportunity for Fellows with similar interests to dine with members of the community who have experience in their field. The areas of affinity included health care, law, judiciary, education and public safety.

This year’s Leadership Academy Keynote Dinner was not only a recognition of our 2016 Academy Fellows but also a celebration of the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life’s 20th Anniversary at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. The Crystal Ball Room at the Clayton Plaza Hotel St. Louis served as a perfect backdrop for approximately 100 special guests, donors, Fellows, university advisors, and staff. The dinner served as an ideal opportunity for the Academy Fellows to network with a number of professionals who assisted them with their career trajectory and making the appropriate connections as they move forward in their professional lives.

The evening was highlighted by brief historical reflections by UMSL Chancellor Emeritus, Blanche M. Touhill and a keynote address by Debbie Walsh, Director of the Center for American Women and Politics at the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University. This year’s theme was: 20 Years: Looking Back, Looking Forward.

(continued on page 3)
Debbie celebrated 2016 as a milestone year: “For the first time in history, women ran for President from both political parties and we expect to see the first woman nominated for president by a major party.” She was quick to remind the audience, however, that since the Leadership Academy began in 1996, the number of women running for office nationwide has increased only by 4% within that 20-year timespan. The Leadership Academy is designed to address many of the obstacles women face: money, family commitments, lack of outreach to women, and lack of confidence in themselves as elective candidates.

The Leadership Academy is succeeding in increasing women’s understanding of politics and increasing their desire to become engaged in at least one form of political participation, besides voting. The Institute’s 20th Anniversary Dinner illuminated both the accomplishments women can be proud of but also the challenges remaining to increase the number of women in public life.

The Institute and the Center for American Women & Politics look forward to working together another 20 years educating the next generation of women public leaders! §

### Build, Run, and Win!

*The Sue Shear Institute prepares local office hopefuls for success*

**By Melony Crayton, Institute Intern & UMSL Student**

Election season is here, and candidates are gearing up to run campaigns they feel will help them win votes. But, do they really know what it takes to run a successful campaign? For the last 18+ years, the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life has hosted the Pipeline to Local Office, a workshop in which prospective candidates and their supporters can receive lessons on running campaigns. Not only has this program been around for many years, it the only nonpartisan and non-ideological program in the St. Louis area, that prepares candidates to run for local office.

This year, the workshop was held on January 26th and the 28th at the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus. Participants heard presentations from successful graduates of the program and practice their campaigning skills while interacting with other potential candidates. On the first night of the workshop, Director, Vivian Eveloff, welcomed participants, provided tips on building campaigns, and raising money to fund it. Following Vivian, Sherri Rogers, former school board member, presented campaign building techniques, and offered fundraising and reporting tips.

During the second night of the program, Lynn Voss, Assistant Director of The Institute, focused discussions on the campaign calendar and the number of votes needed to win. Vivian Eveloff also led a presentation on yard sign designs. Afterwards, Dr. Donna Thurman, Vice President of the Ferguson-Florissant Board of Education, led a discussion on reaching targeted voters.

Over the years, the Institute has become a...
Michelle Harris
Former Alderman & Mayoral Candidate for the City of Clayton

Rita Heard Days
Community Affairs Liaison, Department of Policy & Gov Relations for MO Housing Development Commission

Dr. Malaika Horne
Executive Leadership Consortium

Ella Jones
Ferguson City Council

Susan Jones
Board Member, St. Louis Public Schools

Tishaura Jones
Treasurer, City of St. Louis

Brianna Lennon
Attorney-at-Law

Margo McNeil
Missouri House of Representative, District 078

Jessica Pabst,
Advocacy Director, MO at SSM Health Care

Heather Robinett
City Councilwoman – Ward 2, Ferguson, MO

Sherri Rogers
Sue Shear Institute Advisory Board

Dr. Donna Thurman
President, Ferguson-Florissant School Board

Angela Turner Quigless,
Appellate Judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District

Gina Walsh
Missouri State Senate, North St. Louis County-13th District

Wendy Werner
Owner, Werner Associates

Hope Whitehead
Attorney-at-Law

Candidate Ward 2 Alderman, Town & County, believes that her experience with the Pipeline and Institute, will get her the big win as well: “My experience with Pipeline to Local Office has been outstanding. The Sue Shear Institute has guided me through the preparation of running a municipal race. I look forward to applying these skills and knowledge and having a successful outcome.”

Overall, the Pipeline workshop allows people within our communities to step into leadership roles and tackle local issues. Also, Pipeline participants were able to take away the Institute’s recipe for success: build a winning campaign that will engage and spark interest from the public. Next, run a campaign in which candidates can reach out to their supporters, such as canvassing. Lastly, win votes on the basis of building and running a successful campaign. The next Pipeline to Local Office workshop dates are January 24th and 26th, 2017.

As of Spring 2016, two women became Associate Circuit Judges in the 31st Circuit located in Springfield, MO. They are the first females to serve on the 11-member Judicial Bench there. Margaret Holden Palmietto was elevated from Commissioner to Judge in December, 2015. Shortly thereafter, the number of women judges doubled when Becky J.W. Borthwick joined her.

For those unfamiliar with Missouri’s nonpartisan court plan, the process is as follows: attorneys who meet the qualifications apply for open judicial positions. A commission comprised of two attorneys, two citizens (appointed by the Governor) and chaired by the presiding judge of the region’s Court of Appeals, interview the applicants and select three of them for consideration by the Governor. He (or she) then selects one of the panel members to fill the vacancy. State courts in the Springfield, MO area joined those in the greater Kansas City area and in St. Louis City and County in this merit approach to naming members of the MO Courts of Appeals and Supreme Court. Judges who reflect the diversity of the Courts’ region or state are believed to increase the credibility of their decisions.

Dressing for the Institute’s Success

Location:
9741 Manchester Road
St. Louis, MO 63119
(across from Hacienda)
Phone: (314) 918-0575
info@shoprung.org
UMSL Budget Cuts Hit Sue Shear Institute

This spring when Chancellor Tom George announced that the UMSL campus had a $15 million deficit, it was hard to imagine that the Sue Shear Institute’s long-standing, modest funding would be impacted, since it was less than .0016% of this shortfall. Nevertheless, the Institute will sustain a 50% reduction in its funding from Missouri’s higher education budget line over the next two years: from $250,000 to $125,000. This allocation has remained the same, or less, for most of the Institute’s 20 years of operation.

During the last decade, this amount was not adequate to cover expanding program offerings and required additional staff. While increasing program fees helped, additional fundraising became vital to sustaining new initiatives, including the Institute’s LEAD program and its offshoot, the middle school Girls’ Summit. Despite the generosity of many of the graduates of Institute programs and supporters in the community, this draconian reduction of funding could not be covered by simple belt-tightening.

As a result, Institute Founder and Director, Vivian Eveloff, will retire effective September 1, 2016. She will transition from her full-time status, to working 40% during 2016-17. Even this reduction will strain the support for ongoing staff, continuing the Women’s Watch newsletter and the continuing effort to track diversity in public policy, boards and commission, as well as the Judiciary.

Those who would like to help support the Institute’s efforts are encouraged to make a generous donation to help the Institute weather this storm. You may use the donation form on the last page of this newsletter or if you would like to discuss an endowment or life legacy, please contact the Institute at 314.516-6622.

2016 Shear Fellows and Advisors

**Missouri State University**
Nora Cox, Advisor; Courtney Bollig, Kelsey Esther, Nicole Noonan, Olayemi Ponnle

**Southeast Missouri State University**
Debra Holzhauer, Advisor; Khaiuna Ayetimiyi, Lydia Cameron, Megan Goessling, Sydney Rodgers

**Truman State University**
Carol Bennett, Advisor; Danessa Clay, Lauren Hogan, Kristin Geiman, Eboni Miller

**University of Central Missouri**
Shari Bax, Advisor; Raven Alade, Ashley Patton, Keyontae Richardson, Andrea Tinoco

**University of Missouri—Columbia**
Christina King, Advisor; Alison Bonner, Taylor Cofield, Jennifer McNamara, Tori Schafer

**University of Missouri—Kansas City**
Kacie Otto, Advisor; Amy Brost, Deena Essa, Christine Hoober, Allegra Wolff

**University of Missouri—St. Louis**
Sue Kendig, Advisor; Jennifer Connelly-Bowen, Melony Crayton, Cherrell Green, Jamie Roberts, Ashley Westbrook

**Faculty in Residence**
State Representative, Margo McNeil

**Interns**
Rosalie Swingle, Truman Young-Im Lee, UMSL
Appointments
The following lists include women who have been appointed to boards and commissions since January 2016.

State of Missouri

Michelle D. Aycock-Parma
Commission on Retirement, Removal, and Discipline of Judges

Ailiki Barnstone
Missouri’s Poet Laureate

Kimberly Benjamin-Raymore
Missouri Ethics Commission

Judge Becky Borthwick
31st Judicial Circuit, Associate Circuit Judge

Laura A. Crandall
Truman State University Board of Governors

Jennifer Kopp Dameron
Truman State University Board of Governors

Mary Dandurand
Advisory Commission for Dental Hygienists

Judge Colleen Dolan
Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, Circuit Judge

Nancy S. Hoeman
Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board

Christine M. Kiefer
Board of Cosmetology and Barber Examiners

Dr. Mary Long
University of Central Missouri Board of Governors

Rhonda L. Mammen
Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board

Michelle L. Miller
Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board

Mary E. Nelson
University of Missouri Board of Curators

Brenda O’Brien
Treasurer for Lincoln County

Anita Y. Oplotnik
Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors

Judge Lisa Page
Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, Appellate Judge

Jill G. Patterson
Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board

Judge Paula Perkins Bryant
22nd Judicial Circuit, Circuit Judge

Elyn G. Potter
Board of Geologist Registration

Deborah L. Price
Harris-Stowe State University Board of Regents

Judge Patricia Riehl
23rd Judicial Circuit, Associate Circuit Judge

Kayla Schoonover
Missouri Western State University Board of Governors

Renee T. Slusher
Administrative Hearing Commission

Linda K. Thomas
Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board

Dr. Donna Washburn
Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board

Judge Nancy Watkins
21st Judicial Circuit, Circuit Judge

Christine White
Workers’ Compensation Determinations Review Board

Jennifer L. Williams
Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council

St. Louis County

Azra Ahmad
Human Relations Commission

Kim Brown
Animal Care & Control Advisory Board

Catherine Carter
Housing Resources Commission

Sharon Frey
County Health Advisory Board

Constance Gully
ZMD–Missouri History Museum Subdistrict Board of Commissioners

Janice Harris
Human Relations Commission

Ellen Lawrence
Animal Care & Control Advisory Board

City of St. Louis

Emily Andrews
Denise Kowelman
Barbara Murray
May Reay
Forest Park Advisory Board

Cynthia Beinkley
Zoo Subdistrict

Ashley Brewer
Crowne Plaza Community Improvement District

Joan Briccetti
History Museum Subdistrict

Elaina Burries
Brenda Malone
Armeldra Simpson
Angela Thomas
HIV Health Services Planning Council–Metro St. Louis

Sharon Coleman
Equalization Board

Mary Jo Condon
Susan Kendig
Alma Poljarevic
Board of Hospital

Khaleelah Green
Board of Health

Carolyn Jackson
Carla Rose
Jennifer Matthew
Mental Health Fund, Board of Trustees for the Community

Annette Mandel
Metropolitan Sewer Districts Board of Trustees

Barbra Moore
Cherokee-Lemp Special Business Districts

Melissa Moulton
Washington Place Special Business District

Teri Pesapane
Central West End Southeast Special Business District

Wendy Timm
Land Clearance for redevelopment Authority

Anabeth Weil
Art Museum Subdistrict

Donna Wilkinson
St. Louis Science Center Board of Commissioners
In addition to updates from Leadership Academy alums, we’re now including news from graduates of the UMSL LEAD program. We are proud to share their accomplishments with you! Graduates of respective programs in parenthesis.

- **Rebecca Ahlvin**
  Southeast Missouri State University ('11)
  Rebecca moved from St. Louis to Woodbury, Minnesota and is now a Management Assistant-Administration for the City of Cottage Grove, Minnesota.

- **Melissa Alper**
  UMSL LEAD Program ('10)
  Melissa is the Student Series Campaign Manager at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

- **Chloe Arms**
  UMSL LEAD Program ('14)
  Chloe graduated UMSL in May 2016 Cum Laude and immediately began her Master’s and Specialist Degree in School Psychology this Summer at UMSL.

- **Arielle Bodine**
  Missouri University of Science and Technology ('15)
  Arielle graduated from Missouri University of Science and Technology in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics and Economics.
  She recently began her position as a financial analyst at NISA Investment Advisors in Clayton, Missouri.

- **Courtney Bollig**
  Missouri State University ('16)
  Courtney graduated from Missouri State University and the Leadership Academy in 2016 and weeks before moving to Washington, D.C. to pursue her Masters at The George Washington University.
  She now works at The Catholic University of America as a graduate assistant. Courtney was also one of the nominees to be invited to attend the White House Summit on The United State of Women in June 2016.

- **Jessy Chisholm**
  University of Missouri– St. Louis ('10)
  Jessy graduated from Saint Louis University in May 2016 with her Masters in Healthcare Administration (MHA).
  She began working for Express Scripts as a Quality Analyst in the Strategic Analytics Department.

- **Melony Crayton**
  University of Missouri– St. Louis ('16)
  UMSL LEAD Program ('15)
  Melony has been accepted into the Master’s Program in Counseling at UMSL and is scheduled to attend this Fall 2016. She is also being considered for a position as a College Completion Coach with AmeriCorps and College Bound.

- **Lovey Davis**
  University of Missouri– St. Louis ('02)
  Lovey received an award from the Top Ladies of Distinction Confluence Chapter for her community service.
  She also received the Achieving Excellence One Step Beyond Award on May 14, 2016.

- **Lindsey Dyn** (formerly Bohn)
  University of Central Missouri ('05)
  Lindsey is in her 8th year with a prominent forensic laboratory. Her love for running charities led to the creation of Reason 2 Run which helped to raise funds for the Melanoma Research Foundation and Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS).

- **JoEllen Flanagan Engelbart**
  Truman State University ('11)
  JoEllen is now an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in the Jackson County Prosecutor’s Office, Independence, Missouri.

- **Natascha Harried**
  University of Missouri– St. Louis ('06)
  Natascha recently graduated from Missouri Baptist University with a Masters degree in Christian Ministry with an emphasis in both Pastoral Ministry and Urban Ministry.

- **Sarah Jackson**
  University of Missouri- Columbia ('03)
  Sarah plans to graduate on July 14, 2016 from the Presidential Leadership Scholars (PLS) Program.
  Sarah will serve as class speaker at the Little Rock Central High School commencement ceremony this year.
  She will introduce former U.S. Presidents William J. Clinton and George W. Bush, along with former British Prime Minister, Tony Blair.

- **Michelle Landers-Ochsner**
  Truman State University ('08)
  Michelle is a Development Associate at Flance Early Learning Center located in Downtown St. Louis. She loves her new position and working in development.

- **Nour Salmeen**
  University of Missouri– St. Louis ('15)
  Nour is a recent E Des Lee Scholarship recipient and is currently working as an Immigration Research Assistant within the St. Louis Mosaic Project Summer Internship.

- **Erica Thomas**
  University of Missouri– St. Louis ('13)
  UMSL LEAD Program ('14)
  Erica graduated from UMSL with her Master’s in Public Policy Administration and Certificate in Nonprofit Management & Leadership.

- **Sara “Ashley” Warren**
  University of Missouri- Columbia ('06)
  Sara graduated from her Family Medicine Residency and return to her hometown of Richland, Missouri. She will begin practicing medicine in August and is moving into her new home.

*If you need to update your contact information, please email: lvoss@umsl.edu
Yes, I want to support the Institute’s mission of helping women participate fully in public policy decision making arenas.

Donor Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Designation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1000+</td>
<td>Benefactor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Contributor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50</td>
<td>Supporter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please make checks payable to the

Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life
University of Missouri-St. Louis
346 Woods Hall
One University Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63121-4400

Name: ____________________________
Title: ____________________________ Organization: ____________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________
City: ____________________________ State: _______ Zip: ______________
Phone: (hm) ______________________ (wk) ______________________
E-mail: ____________________________

Contributions are tax-deductible. Thank You.

Upcoming Events and Important Dates:

Pipeline to Local Office
January 24 & 26, 2017
UMSL Alumni Room,
Woods Hall 101

General Election
November 8, 2016

Visit our website for more details:
www.umsl.edu/sueshear