Pipeline program addresses a need

The Institute is holding its 14th annual Pipeline to Local Office workshop, and its mission is resonating more than ever in St. Louis County.

In response to the events in Ferguson, many leaders are encouraging people to consider running for local office to bring about change in the region. The workshop on January 26th and 28th, targeted to individuals interested in running for nonpartisan municipal office, can give citizens eyeing a campaign a leg up on potential challengers.

Many have also observed that city officials in Ferguson and surrounding municipalities do not always reflect the makeup of the community they serve. Underrepresentation of women and people of color, in particular, continue to be a concern.

“Research suggests that women do not run for office because no one asks them to – and this is especially true for women of color,” according to Vivian Eveloff, Director of the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life. The Institute and partners are seeking a funder in the St. Louis Region interested in underwriting the cost of the training for those attending.

If you are interested in learning more about running for local office and attending the two-day workshop at UMSL, please visit our website: http://www.umsl.edu/sueshear/Programs-and-Workshops/Local-Pipeline-Registration.html

If you are committed to running for a nonpartisan municipal office in April 2015, especially in Ferguson or a surrounding municipality in North St. Louis County, consider applying for a scholarship. Contact Michelle Landers-Ochsner at landersm@umsl.edu for more information.

Notable Pipeline Graduates
Monica Huddleston, Mayor, Greendale
Sally Faith, Mayor, St. Charles
Dr. Donna Thurman, Board Member, Ferguson-Florissant School Board
Viola Murphy, Mayor, Cool Valley
Michelle Harris, Alderman, Clayton
Michelle Greenwald, City Council, Richmond Heights

Dates to Remember for Potential Candidates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 16</th>
<th>January 17</th>
<th>January 26 &amp; 28</th>
<th>March 11</th>
<th>March 27</th>
<th>April 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Candidate filing opens</td>
<td>Deadline for early registration for Pipeline to Local Office program</td>
<td>Pipeline to Local Office</td>
<td>Last day to register to vote for 4/7 election</td>
<td>Last day to file as a write-in candidate</td>
<td>Election Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the first time ever, there are 100 women serving in the United States Congress. Representative Alma Adams (D-N.C.) was sworn in shortly after winning a special election in November. More about this milestone from the Center for American Women in Politics at http://cawp.rutgers.edu/footnotes/100isnotenough.
**Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life**

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**Woman Watch** is a publication of the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life

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St. Louis, MO 63121
Phone: 314.516.4727
Fax: 314.516.6621
www.umsl.edu/sueshear

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**SUESHEAR**

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**Vivian Eveloff**, Director
veloff@umsl.edu

Jennifer Drake Fantroy, Assistant Director
fantrony@umsl.edu

Michelle Landers-Ochsner
Administrative Staff
landersm@umsl.edu

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**November election brings little change for Missourians**

The November 2014 election made only a slight impact on the number of women in public office in Missouri. The two women who represent the state in Congress were reelected, as were all of the state’s members. In the Missouri Senate, term-limited State Rep. Jeanne Riddle of Mokane became the first woman to be elected to the Senate in District 10, the area south of Kansas City. In central St. Louis County, Rep. Jill Schupp became the third woman elected to serve the 24th District since 1994. Incumbent women Senators all won their elections, bringing the total number of women in the 34 member body to six, an increase of one, but less than the record of eight in 2010.

In the Missouri House of Representatives, all 163 seats were on the ballot and many women ran for seats, often against another woman. This increasing support for women candidates of both parties is an encouraging trend. In south St. Louis County’s 94th District, incumbent Vicki Englund lost to Republican Cloria Brown. The two have taken turns in that seat in alternating elections since 2008, when Vicki was first elected. In nearby District 90, incumbent Rick Stream was term limited out and both parties nominated a woman to replace him. Deb Lavender, in a testament to tenacity, ran for the fourth time and succeeded.

The Ferguson Commission includes six female appointees: Rev. Traci deVon Blackmon, Bethany A. Johnson-Javais, MSW, Brittany N. Packnett, Rose A. Windmiller, Becky James-Hatter, and Felicia Pulliam, J.D.

Are you a woman in public life with news to share?
E-mail fantrony@umsl.edu.

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**2014 Missouri General Election Results for Female Candidates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Incumbent</th>
<th>Incoming</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Missouri House of Reps</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri Senate</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US House of Reps</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 2014 General Elec Female Candidates</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Re-elected MO State Representative Linda Black was elected as a Democrat, but switched parties afterward.
“Missouri Plan” for courts is a national model

Did you, like many Missouri voters, wonder why you were voting on “retaining” judges when you looked at the ballot on Election Day? You were participating in the “Missouri Plan,” a national model for removing partisan politics from deciding who becomes a judge in the state. It is used statewide for the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeals and for trial judges in St. Louis City and County, and Jackson, Clay, Platte, and Greene Counties. In the rest of the Missouri, trial judges are still elected on a partisan ballot.

The Plan was adopted by public vote on Constitutional amendments. It seems to have achieved the goal of deterring corruption in the Courts. The Plan requires that lawyers who aspire to the Bench must apply for the position, be interviewed by a Judicial Commission composed of equal numbers of lawyers and public representatives, and the Presiding Judge of the next higher court. This group selects three of the applicants, and then the Governor selects one to fill the open judicial position. The Plan also stipulates that the judges be considered for retention vote on a regular schedule, with the first vote occurring at the November election after the judge has served for 12 months.

One of the unanticipated benefits of the Missouri Plan has been the diversity of judges appointed. While some women and people of color were successfully elected, judges were, and are still mostly white males. However, judges today are more likely to reflect the diversity of the region they serve, and the lawyers in the given Circuit. The selection commissions are also a fairly diverse group. The Sue Shear Institute is the only entity in the state that tracks the composition of the judiciary and the selection commissions in Missouri. For more information, please visit http://www.umsl.edu/sueshear/Missouri-Non-Partisan-Court-Plan-Judicial-Statistics/index.html.

The judicial interview process now includes a public interview of each applicant. Information about when and where these take place can be found on the Missouri Courts homepage: www.courts.mo.gov.

Institute Director Vivian Eveloff has a particular interest in the judiciary, having served on the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline of Judges as well as the Committee on Judicial Retention for the 21st Circuit. She has been a regular observer of the public interviews in Missouri Plan jurisdictions throughout the state. She reports that Presiding Judges may set procedural guidelines they deem appropriate for the jurisdiction as well as the number of applicants. Vivian encourages lawyers who are planning to apply for judgeships, as well as the general public, to observe the process in order to have a greater appreciation for this important branch of government.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender of Appointed Judges in the Missouri Non-Partisan Court Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Save the Date!
Dr. Marcia Chatelain, author of “Southside Girls”
University of Missouri - Columbia Fellow ('99)
and Amethyst Award Recipient ('08)
March 2015
Missouri History Museum

★A conversation with★
DONNA BRAZILE
VICE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
First African-American to Manage a Presidential Campaign
Political Contributor for CNN

THURSDAY, MARCH 5
7:00 PM
MSC Century Rooms

$5 – UMSL Student Tickets
AVAILABLE 1/25 IN MSC 364
$10 – Faculty/Staff Tickets
AVAILABLE 1/25 IN MSC 364
$15 – General Admission
AVAILABLE 1/25 AT bit.ly/donnabrazile-mo

FACULTY AFFILIATES
Thanks also to our newest faculty affiliates:

Rachel Boehlow
UMSL Career Services
Antionette Carroll
CHAx365
Laninya Cason
St. Clair County, Associate Circuit
Dr. Glen Cope
UMSL Provost
Mayra Flesner
Flesner Wentzel
Kimberly Gardner
MO State Representative
Candace Glass
Southtown Yoga
Katherine Golden
EarthWays Center, MO Botanical Gardens
Rhonda Gray
Almost Home
Rebecca Holmes
Boeing
Dr. Malaika Horne-Wells
UMSL Executive Leadership Consortium
Jessica Long-Pease
UMSL Student Life
Lauren Masterson-Rodriguez
Emily Rapko McEneny
UMSL Career Services
Jeanne Norris
Washington University Institute for School Partnership
Andrea Purnell
Missouri Institute for Mental Health
Angela Turner Quigless
MO Court of Appeals
Rebecca Thompson
AAUW Elect Her
Wendy Werner
Werner Associates, LLC

Warm holiday wishes and a Happy New Year to all!
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, visit our website at www.umsl.edu/sueshear 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/

The following lists include women who have been appointed to boards and commissions since September 2014.

*No appointments were reported for the City of St. Louis.

**State of Missouri**

Dr. Judene Blackburn  
State Lottery Commission

Linda M. Bramblett  
Board of Cosmetology and Barber Examiners

Rita Burlison  
22nd Circuit Judicial Commission

Susan Cole  
Missouri Charter Public School Commission

Maida Coleman  
Office of Community Engagement

Dr. Deborah Curtis  
Missouri Charter Public School Commission

Tiffany Franklin  
22nd Circuit Judicial Commission

Dr. Christina M. Ferguson  
State Board of Pharmacy

Rep. Kimberly M. Gardner  
State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision

Robyn A. Gray  
Reynolds County, Public Administrator

Nancy C. Hagan  
Missouri Ethics Commission

Becky James-Hatter  
Ferguson Commission

Bethany Johnson-Javois  
Ferguson Commission

Lori M. Pace  
State Rehabilitation Council

Brittany Packnett  
Ferguson Commission

Fellicia Pulliam  
Ferguson Commission

Nia Ray  
Missouri Department of Revenue, Director

Christie L. Rodriguez  
Board of Cosmetology and Barber Examiners

Mary C. Tallarico

**St. Louis County**

Adrian Bracy  
Zoo-Museum District – Botanical Garden Subdistrict Board of Commissioners

Michelle Harris  
Metropolitan Zoological Park & Museum District Board

**Girls’ Summit Fall 2014**

Pictures: (from top to bottom) 1. Almost Home Director Rhonda Gray with Courtney, a former Almost Home resident and her son. 2. Girls’ Summit students meditate with Candace Glass from Elephant Power Institute. 3. Illinois Judge Laninya Cason with Summit co-creator Judge Brenda Loftin. 4. Students practice yoga poses. 5. 2014 LEAD participants.
“How does it feel to be a judge?”

Laninya Cason paused before responding to the question, one of many put to her by a crowd of girls gathered at the University of Missouri–St. Louis.

“Natural,” answered Cason, an associate judge with the Twentieth Judicial Circuit Court in Illinois. “Judges think, analyze – and that’s what I like to do: think and analyze.”

Thinking was a theme of her keynote talk, “Let’s Imagine Your Future,” at the Girls’ Summit that brought nearly 100 St. Louis-area middle school girls to campus Nov. 21. Organized by UMSL students taking part in a leadership initiative of the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, the event focused the girls’ attention around long-term goals and healthy choices.

“You have got to empower yourself. Think about what you want to do,” said Cason, a member of the National Association of Women Judges which co-founded the summit. “I thought I wanted to be a doctor. [In college] I figured out I couldn’t do it. I scrapped that plan and had to think about something else.”

Cason described poverty and lack of education as “two bandits” that can result in “a world of trouble” and create enormous challenges. She also said it’s primarily up to young people “to figure this thing out.”

“Everybody has a story,” Cason said. “No matter what your story is, embrace things like this. Embrace this summit... Get your education, get those grants, get those loans, get it. [Your degree] is something that no one can take away from you.”

The Girls’ Summit included students from diverse backgrounds and a range of public and private schools in the St. Louis region. Following Cason’s spirited address, they peppered her with questions, wondering at what point she knew she wanted to go into law, what her caseload is like and what advice she would give to encourage family members to go to college.

“The speakers were all women that these girls could relate to and see a part of themselves in,” said UMSL graduate student Justine Patterson, one of this year’s LEAD program participants. “I was surprised by the amount of questions they asked our speakers [and] enjoyed hearing the girls talk about their goals.”

In addition to Cason’s talk, the summit included a chance to interact with professionals in a variety of fields for 15 minutes each at different tables throughout the room, a focus on health and mindfulness, and a discussion led by Rhonda Gray, executive director of Almost Home.

Almost Home provides housing and support for teenage mothers and their children. At one point in her presentation, Gray asked the middle school students to raise their hands if they knew someone who has had a baby at the age of 12 or 13. Dozens of hands flew up.

“Get really focused and serious about the things that should be important to you right now,” Gray said. “The best way to prevent teen pregnancy is to have a bright future.”

The Institute is grateful to the co-creator of the Summit, the National Association of Women Judges, for its financial support and partnership. We want to extend a special thanks to Judge Brenda Stith Loftin, whose leadership and support made the Summit possible. Thank you!
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! (Note: The number in parenthesis represents year of participation in the Leadership Academy.)

◆ Karissa Anderson
Southeast Missouri State University (’12)
Karissa will be graduating in May 2015 with her Masters in Social Work from Saint Louis University. She is interning with SLU’s Student Educational Services Office and Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, where she is an Educational Policy Intern.

◆ Kaitlynn Baker
Lincoln University (’09)
Kaitlynn is a Studio Manager/Artist for The Twisted Canvas in downtown Jefferson City. She creates original works of art and helps others by teaching them skills and techniques to express themselves artistically.

◆ Jennifer Benton
University of Central Missouri (’14)
Jennifer recently spoke at Truman State University on autism and advocacy for those with developmental disabilities. Jennifer will start law school in Fall 2015, and she is working on a graduate certificate program at KU in Autism Spectrum Disorder.

◆ Antionette D. Carroll
University of Missouri – St. Louis (’07); Amethyst Award Recipient (’13)
Antionette is an adjunct instructor at Saint Louis University in Organizational Communication. She was named a Fellow through the Community Arts Training Institute with the Regional Arts Commission. Antionette founded a social impact design accelerator called Creative Reaction Lab.

◆ Dr. Marcia Chatelain
University of Missouri – Columbia (’99); Amethyst Award Recipient (’08)
Marcia is enjoying her fourth year as assistant professor of history at Georgetown University. In Spring 2014, she was honored with the Dorothy Brown Award for Teaching, an honor voted on by the students of Georgetown. She delivered the faculty address at the 2014 New Student Convocation.

◆ Megan Cripps
Southeast Missouri State University (’10)
Megan is in her third year of law school at Michigan State University College of Law. In Summer 2014, she worked at Ernst & Young in Detroit, Michigan and accepted a full-time offer from them to start in Fall 2015 after graduation.

◆ Ki’ara D. Cross
Truman State University (’10)
Ki’ara graduated from the University Of Missouri School Of Law in May 2014 and was admitted to the Illinois Bar in November 2014. She practices family law at the Stange Law Firm in Edwardsville, Illinois.

◆ Emily Elam
University of Central Missouri (’10)
Emily graduated from Saint Louis University Law School, cum laude, and passed the Missouri Bar last summer. Emily works as an associate attorney for Jenkins & Kling, P.C.

◆ Ellie Glenn
Truman State University (’07); Amethyst Award Recipient (’14)
Ellie received the Amethyst Award at the 2014 Keynote Dinner. Ellie started a new job as the Government Relations Director at St. Louis Children’s Hospital. She also became a mentor with the Griffiths Leadership Society for Women at the University of Missouri—Columbia.

◆ Precious Hardy
Lincoln University (’14)
In January 2015, Precious will be presenting on Enhancing STEM Education at an HBCU Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. Precious will be graduating in May 2015 with her Bachelor’s degree in Psychology.

◆ Jennifer L. Harper
University of Missouri – St. Louis (’07)
In October 2014, Jenni left the Harris County Attorney’s Office after two years of public service where she represented the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services in removal and custody proceedings. Now Jenni has moved to Saudi Arabia with her family.

◆ Chloe Jackson
Truman State University (’14)
In Fall 2014, Chloe helped plan and host the bi-annual Missouri Coalition for Climate Justice Retreat. Also, she was officially invited to be a student representative for the President’s Sustainability Action Committee at Truman State University. In Spring 2015, Chloe will be teaching a service learning course, “Grassroots Environmentalism.”

◆ Ellen Komaromi
Lincoln University (’13)
Ellen graduated in December 2014 with her Associates in nursing from Lincoln University. She will start a bachelor’s degree in nursing program at Lincoln University in the spring.

◆ Crystal Brigman Mahaney
Missouri State University (’07)
Crystal is a Statewide Grassroots Organizer for Missouri Health Care. She recently joined the Board of the Missouri Citizen Education Fund.

◆ Bridget Member-Meneh
University of Missouri – St. Louis (’07)
Bridget is a graduate student at Saint Louis University earning her Masters of Health Administration. She is a volunteer intern at BJH at the Siteman Center.

◆ Roan Peters
University of Missouri – Columbia (’06)
Roan accepted a position with AmeriCorps VISTA at the Susannah Wesley Community Center. In Honolulu, Hawaii where she will pilot a mentoring program, alleviate and prevent poverty.

◆ Stacey L. Pugh
Truman State University (’11); Intern (’13)
After serving a year in AmeriCorps for an organization called College Bound – St. Louis, Stacey is now working as their Development Assistant/Social Media Manager.

◆ Bethany Henry Rosebaum
University of Missouri – Columbia (’10)
In Spring 2014, Bethany completed her Masters in History at the University of Arkansas and has begun a Doctoral program in History focusing on Native American studies. Bethany has received the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Ph.D. Fellowship. She is a Park Ranger for the Na-
national Park Service working to preserve Indian cultures in public spaces.

♦ Christy Schlosser  
*Truman State University* (‘04)  
Christy was recently promoted to Consumer Insights Manager at Service Management Research Firm in Kansas City. She is an inaugural member of the Truman Medical Center Young Leader’s Initiative.

♦ Linda Schreiber  
*Southeast Missouri State University* (‘13)  
Linda was appointed Vice President of a new chapter of Center for Public Trust (CPT) at Southeast Missouri State University.

♦ Jamie Shockley  
*University of Central Missouri* (‘09)  
Jamie is working as the Assistant City Administrator for the City of Tonganoxie, Kansas. In her position, Jamie is in charge of Finance, Budget, Human Resources, Communications, and Policy Research.

♦ Jacqueline Soderstom  
*Missouri University of Science and Technology* (‘12)  
Jaqueline finished a coding bootcamp, App Academy, in New York City. She is preparing to start a career as a software developer.

♦ Kim Wilken  
*Missouri University of Science and Technology* (‘11)  
Kim graduated in December 2014 with a B.S. degree in Architectural and Civil Engineering. In January 2015, Kim will be working for Nucor Building Systems in South Carolina as an Associate Design Engineer.

For more fellows’ updates, visit:  
[www.umsl.edu/sueshear](http://www.umsl.edu/sueshear)

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2014 LEAD graduates on the path to success

“Will you give us the donor’s address? I’d like to write her a thank you note.”

And with that request, the 2014 LEAD program’s graduates had come full circle.

After a semester of learning “soft skills” – handshakes, networking, and, of course, writing thank you notes – this year’s graduates gathered on December 5th to celebrate their progress. These open secrets to success in the professional world are becoming muscle memory for UMSL LEAD participants like Laura Erzen, a graduate student in the university’s counseling program.

“Before the LEAD program, I knew that it was good to make small talk but didn’t really understand how to apply it effectively in the professional world. After learning things like ‘elevator pitches’ and other skills, it became more natural to me to have thoughtful, professional interactions with purpose,” she said.

During the graduation, each student shared her favorite part of the LEAD program. The Girls’ Summit (featured on page 5) was a highlight for many, as was hearing from women leaders like Eastern District Court of Appeals Presiding Judge Angela Turner Quigless, who advised the women to see failures as learning opportunities.

In addition to Institute staff and LEAD students attending, UMSL Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Glen Cope, presided at the graduation. Also attending was Institute Advisory Board Member Dr. Sheila Clarke-Ekong, Associate Professor of Anthropology at UMSL.

In an example of the success that is to come for this group of outstanding women leaders, the Institute staff received an email from Sarah Feldscher, a senior Logistics and Operations Management major and 2014 LEAD graduate. Sarah kept us in the loop throughout the semester on her job search, and less than two weeks after graduation, let us know that she had landed a position she had been gunning for.

“I have to give the LEAD program most of the credit due to the skills I learned in this program...I was able to present myself very professionally due to some of the tips I learned through LEAD. I also used the negotiation tactics to negotiate my salary. I just wanted to thank you again and share my good news with all of you.” Congratulations, Sarah!

The Institute staff, Dr. Cope, and Dr. Ekong agree: we can’t wait to see what these women do next.
Yes, I want to support the Institute’s mission of helping women participate fully in public policy decision making arenas.

| Name: __________________________ | Title: _______________ Organization: __________________________ |
| Address: __________________________ | City: _______________ State: ______ Zip: _______________ |
| Phone: (hm) _______________ (wk) _______________ | E-mail: __________________________ |

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- $ 50: Supporter

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**Upcoming Events and Important Dates:**

**Pipeline to Local Office**
January 26 & 28, 2015
UMSL Alumni Room, Woods Hall 101

**General Municipal Election**
April 7, 2015

**21st Century Leadership Academy Dinner**
May 21, 2015

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

**Contributions are tax-deductible. Thank You.**

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

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