

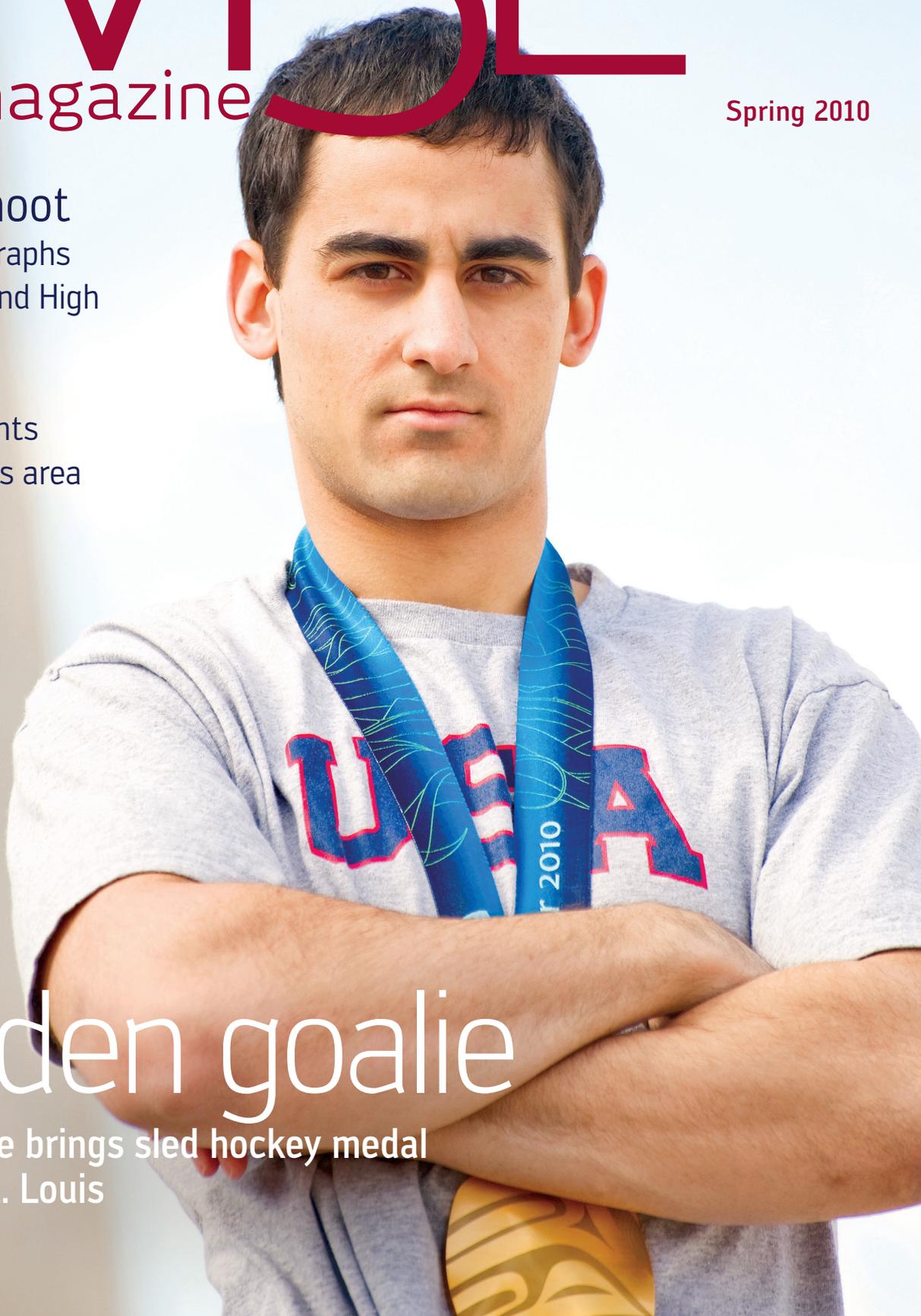
UMSL

magazine

Spring 2010

Point and shoot
Professor photographs
crumbling Cleveland High

Pitching in
How UMSL students
serve the St. Louis area



Golden goalie

Sophomore brings sled hockey medal
back to St. Louis



18

The University of Missouri–St. Louis publishes **UMSL** magazine for alumni and friends. The magazine highlights excellence at the university. Circulation is 74,000, and the magazine is released twice a year.

Chancellor
Thomas F. George

Vice Chancellor
for Advancement
Martin Leifeld

Associate Vice Chancellor
for Communications
Bob Samples

Editor
Tom Hockett

Contributing Editors
Ryan Heinz,
Rose Postma,
Linda Tracy

Photographers
August Jennewein,
Mark Katzman, Richard
Lam, Maurice Meredith,
Danny Reise

Designer
Sandy Morris

Production
Cindy Bertram

Writers
Jack Crosby, Jennifer Hatton,
Ryan Heinz, Tom Hockett,
Rose Postma, Bob Samples,
Kylie Shafferkoetter,
Linda Tracy, Maureen Zegel

Printer
University of Missouri Printing Services
UMSL Magazine
252 General Services Building
One University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121
magazine@umsl.edu
<http://www.umsl.edu/magazine>
314-516-5827

Departments

- 4 In brief
- 7 In his own words
- 8 In print
- 25 UMSL people
- 28 Alumni news
- 30 Class notes

10 **picturing cleveland**
Photographer Dan Younger documents the condition of his alma mater—the vacant and deteriorating Cleveland High School in south St. Louis.

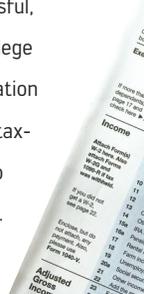
14 **seeing success**
The College of Optometry's Mobile Eye Center provides a clinic on wheels that serves students and senior citizens who wouldn't otherwise receive eye care.

16 **net minder**
UMSL sophomore Steve Cash is a world champion sled hockey goalie.

His team won gold at the 2010 Winter Paralympic Games.

18 **pitching in**
UMSL students and the St. Louis community are reaping the benefits of the university's Students of Service Program.

22 **pinching pennies**
Not only is tax preparation complicated and stressful, it's also expensive. College of Business Administration students provide free tax-preparation services to low-income individuals.



Dear Readers



The St. Louis area lost one of its brightest and most caring citizens when E. Desmond Lee died Jan. 12. And the University of Missouri—St. Louis lost a champion and friend.

Des was raised to appreciate education, hard work, community and equality. These qualities served him well as he emerged from the Depression and World War II to build a multimillion-dollar business in St. Louis that employed hundreds of people and later became the funding source for Des' unique brand of philanthropy.

For decades, Des was involved with numerous educational and cultural institutions in St. Louis. This made him aware of their individual strengths and effect on the community. It also made Des dream about the greater influence the organizations could have if they worked together more closely.

So in 1996, Des made his dream a reality by creating six endowed professorships that link the region's top cultural institutions. Thus, the Des Lee Collaborative Vision was born at UMSL.

The DLCV now includes 37 professorships at UMSL, Washington University in St. Louis and Webster University in Webster Groves, Mo. Tied to hundreds of community partners, the organization provides programs that reach more than 500,000 people a year.

Des believed in collaboration and community engagement.

We will remain ever proud that he saw a like-minded partner in UMSL. And while this issue of UMSL Magazine is not dedicated to him per se, you will see from the articles that our faculty, students and alumni are engaged every day in fulfilling his vision.

Des Lee will be missed. But his dream lives on.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. George
Chancellor

22

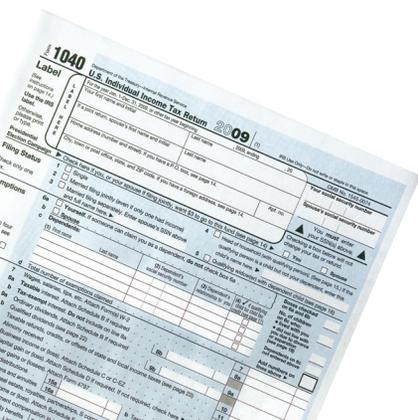
24 foreclosures vs. community

Todd Swanstrom researches foreclosures, and his insight couldn't come at a better time. He educates homeowners about the dangers of foreclosure and its effect on the community.



On the cover

Steve Cash is a sophomore business administration major and sled hockey gold medalist. See Page 16. (Photo by August Jennewein)



In brief



UMSL elementary education seniors (left to right) Danielle Brown, Amber Klemp, Stephanie Huebner and Danielle Elliott experiment with "popcubes" in the Sigma-Aldrich Science Education Lab. The lab is part of the Math Science Education Central, which opened March 12. The popcubes are used as a teaching method for measuring volume, area and probability. (Photo by August Jennewein)

Education College unveils center for math, science

The College of Education at the University of Missouri–St. Louis opened the Math Science Education Central on March 12. Located in Marillac Hall on UMSL's South Campus, the \$900,000 facility is an extension of the college's E. Desmond Lee Technology and Learning Center – the technological hub of the college since April 2000.

Funding for MSEC included major gifts from Boeing, Sigma-Aldrich, Monsanto and MasterCard. UMSL Chancellor Tom George and the college also made significant contributions.

The MSEC facility consists of the Boeing Auditorium, Monsanto Education Bio-Lab, Sigma-Aldrich Science Education Lab, Jean Craighead George Children's Science Collec-

tion and MasterCard Math Manipulative Lending Library. The primary collaborative partner in the MSEC project is the Saint Louis Science Center.

Charles Schmitz, dean of the college, says the new center is a model space for education students to learn the best practices in science, mathematics and technology education.

"The college simply couldn't succeed in projects such as these without the support of St. Louis corporations," Schmitz says. "Corporate gifts are essential, and the college is incredibly grateful for their support."

The College of Education at UMSL is the largest preparer of educators in Missouri.



Uie

University introduces Tritons mascot

The latest member of the University of Missouri–St. Louis family made its debut on Jan. 21 before a roaring crowd of more than 2,200 fans of the UMSL Tritons at the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center.

The mascot punched its red-and-gold fists through the sides of a large box bedecked with UPS symbols. As the cheering swelled, the reptilian creature burst through the parcel, waved to the crowd and danced a jig across Chuck Smith Court during the annual “Pack the Stands” basketball doubleheader against St. Joseph’s College (Rensselaer, Ind.). The women won 81-65, and the men lost 59-73.

At the annual Mirthday celebration in April, the university announced the mascot’s name is “Louie.”

UMSL chemist wins Academy of Science award

Hal Harris (pictured below), associate professor of chemistry and teaching and learning at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, was awarded the Academy of Science of St. Louis’ prestigious Outstanding Science Educator Award.

The award, presented April 22, recognizes a distinguished individual or organization on the basis of outstanding contributions to science education or to the public understanding of science, engineering or technology.

“I am absolutely delighted to be receiving this award,” says Harris, of Creve Coeur, Mo., who has been at UMSL since 1970. “It is a privilege to teach science, and I am fortunate to be recognized for something that I love to do.”



French ambassador lectures here

Pierre Vimont (pictured above), ambassador of France to the United States, kicked off the annual St. Louis French Festival with his lecture “Franco-American Cooperation in the Middle East.” More than 150 people attended the talk Feb. 24 at the University of Missouri–St. Louis.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy appointed Vimont ambassador to the U.S. in 2007.

The St. Louis French Festival was held in late February and early March at several venues in the St. Louis area. The festival touted cultural experiences with a French flair.

Fulbright appointment takes Sabherwal to Canada



Rajiv Sabherwal, the Emery C. Turner Professor of Information Systems at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, was the Fulbright–Queen’s School of Business Research Chair at the Monieson Centre in Kingston, Ontario, Canada during the fall semester.

Each year the Monieson Centre, which is part of the Queen’s School of Business, sponsors the position. Sabherwal worked on collecting data to show how a group of volunteer participants shared knowledge. He says the Fulbright experience will have a great impact on his teaching and research at UMSL.

“Just being in a different part of the world was an education,” he says.

UMSL gets social, newsy

Earlier this year, the University of Missouri–St. Louis launched its YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/umsl>), Twitter feed (<http://twitter.com/umsl>) and Flickr photo-stream (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/umsl>). The university joined the social media outlets to give alumni and friends greater access to UMSL information. The sites complement the UMSL Newsroom (<http://www.umsl.edu/news>), the university’s official online news source.



Gateway for Greatness Campaign update

When the University of Missouri–St. Louis announced its \$100 million Gateway for Greatness Campaign in September, the total raised was \$83 million. Over the past eight months, that number has grown.

“Our total raised to date is now more than \$91 million,” says Mark Berlyn, director of the campaign. “This year’s goal is to raise another \$9 million putting us over the \$100 million goal.”

Martin Leifeld, vice chancellor for university advancement, says about one-third of the funds raised during the campaign will go toward creating more scholarships. The remainder will fund academic programs and facilities.

“In order for UMSL to excel as a competitive university with a growing global reputation, we must continue to attract outstanding students and first-rate faculty,” Leifeld says. “That’s achieved by offering many scholarship opportunities and having good facilities and strong programs.”

According to Berlyn, the campaign includes two major building projects. An initial \$15 million goal has been set to support the construction of a new College of Business Administration building and an \$11 million goal has been set for an academic and community space in Grand Center, a thriving arts and entertainment district in St. Louis. The space will house St. Louis Public Radio 190.7 KWMU.

At the end of March, \$10.2 million had been raised for the College of Business Administration initiative, and donors have contributed more than \$6 million toward the UMSL at Grand Center project.



In his own words

Top researcher talks about the state of character education in K-12 schools

By Jennifer Hatton

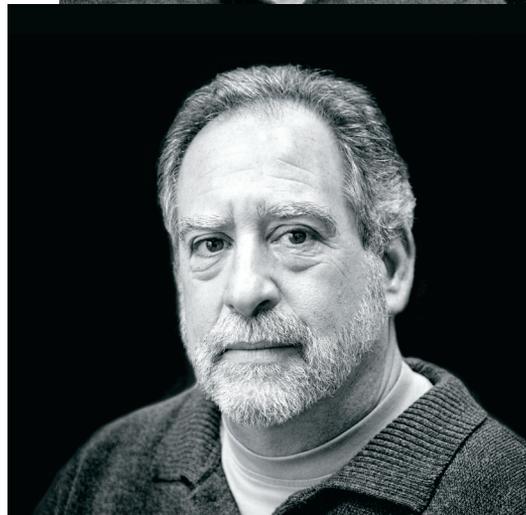
The phrase “the children are our future” is not lost on Marvin Berkowitz. In fact, he’s spent the better part of his life researching and educating others about character education in K-12 schools. For Berkowitz, the Sanford N. McDonnell Endowed Professor of Education at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, character education cannot be an afterthought. It must be a school-wide reform effort, one that develops students’ positive character through discipline policies, curricula and after-school activities.

When you talk with K-12 educators, what about character education is most important to them?

They want to know how to optimally foster the development of character in students while still supporting high-quality academic instruction. And this starts with the school leaders. That’s one reason the Leadership Academy for Character Education is so important. LACE has grown to the capacity that we just can’t accept everyone who wants to attend. In fact, a second LACE program was started four years ago in an effort to train all administrators in the St. Louis Public Schools. To date, 109 SLPS administrators have participated in the intensive yearlong program.

A common notion in our culture is that young people have gone awry. Where are we today versus 10 years ago?

I fundamentally believe that the state of the world, for better or worse, is largely a product of the character of individuals. Schools were once only a piece of the whole picture, along with church, community and family. But times have changed, dynamics have changed and schools are now frequently forced to be the foundation of character education. Because of this, character education is essential. Programs, such as those provided by our center, are crucial, like the Youth Empowerment in Action program, which teaches students to have a voice through media literacy; or the MyLOGO program, which educates students about government procedures and policies.



What are we doing right when it comes to character education? What are we doing wrong?

What we are doing right is placing importance on character education. What we could do better is to put more resources into character education. I would like to see more funding given to character education programs and more collaboration. Currently, our center is working to bring other area scholars together. Ideally, I would like one central location, which allows experts to collaborate with each other.

In 2006, Berkowitz founded the Center for Character and Citizenship in the College of Education at UMSL with Wolfgang Althof, the Teresa M. Fischer Endowed Professor of Citizenship Education. Visit <http://www.characterandcitizenship.org/> for more information about the center. ≡

In print

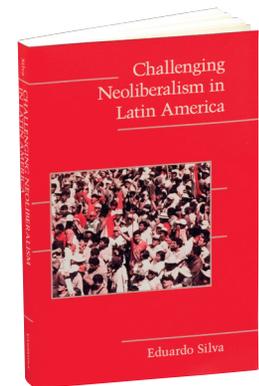
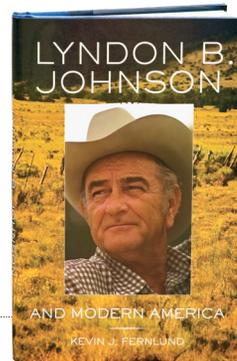
Books by UMSL faculty

“Lyndon B. Johnson and Modern America”

BY KEVIN FERNLUND

University of Oklahoma Press, October 2009

In his biography of Lyndon B. Johnson, Kevin Fernlund, associate professor of history and secondary education, links Johnson’s liberal agenda to the West and follows the president from his birth in a Texas farmhouse to the Western sensibility he later brought to the White House. The book also looks at the role Johnson played in bringing civil rights to the South, modernizing the economy of the West and developing the U.S. space program.



“Challenging Neoliberalism in Latin America”

BY EDUARDO SILVA

Cambridge University Press, August 2009

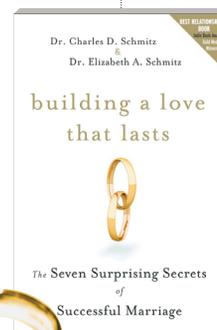
Eduardo Silva, professor of political science, chronicles and analyzes the social protests that swelled and ultimately ushered in the governments in Latin American countries like Bolivia, Argentina, Ecuador and Venezuela. His analysis, through the application of Karl Polanyi’s theory of the double movement of market society to these events, predicts the dawning of an era more supportive of government intervention in the economy and society.

“Building a Love That Lasts: The Seven Surprising Secrets of Successful Marriage”

BY CHARLES AND ELIZABETH SCHMITZ

Jossey-Bass, January 2010

Who better to give marriage advice than Charles Schmitz, dean of the College of Education, and Elizabeth Schmitz, a retired educator and president of Successful Marriage Reflections? The couple has been happily married for more than 43 years, and in their latest book (previously published in hardcover as “Golden Anniversaries: The Seven Secrets of Successful Marriage”) they explain how to sustain a long-term loving marriage. The book focuses on the positive aspects of relationships illustrated by stories from longtime married couples.

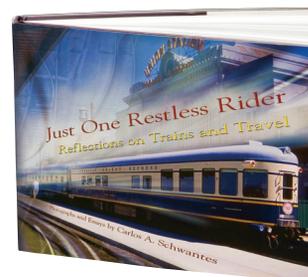


“Just One Restless Rider: Reflections on Trains and Travel”

BY CARLOS SCHWANTES

University of Missouri Press, October 2009

For the past 20 years, Carlos Schwantes, the St. Louis Mercantile Library Endowed Professor in Transportation Studies, has been riding trains and taking pictures. He now invites readers to share his personal journey in this new memoir. The book features essays along with nearly 200 of the thousands of photographs he shot on his travels. Schwantes depicts the human journey through his pictures, capturing everything from an ultramodern European terminal to a luxury train’s staff in action.



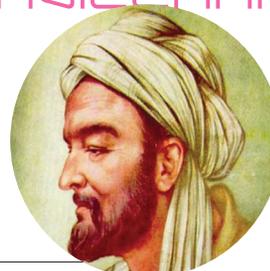
“Avicenna”

BY JON MCGINNIS

Oxford University Press, April 2010

This biography is the first comprehensive introduction to the intellectual activity of Ibn Sina (980-1037), the philosopher from Persia known as “Avicenna” in Latin. Jon McGinnis, associate professor of philosophy, analyzes the thinking of Avicenna, who played a considerable role in the development of both Eastern and Western philosophy and science. Muslims still teach Avicenna’s writing as a living philosophy, and contemporary Catholics and Christians encounter his ideas through Thomas Aquinas, who was deeply affected by Avicenna.

AVICENNA





Stan and Terry Freerks created their own UMSL legacy

With a planned gift benefiting the university

Photo by August Jennewein

“Giving back and creating opportunities for others embodies the true spirit of UMSL.”

Stan and Terry Freerks are proud University of Missouri–St. Louis alumni. Stan, MBA 1992, already owned a small business when he began working toward a graduate degree here, and Terry, BA 1977 and MEd 1979, began her pursuit of higher education at the university.

Both say they had positive experiences while in school.

“We found our education challenging and enjoyable, and we also had great relationships with many of our professors,” Terry says.

The Freerks created an endowed scholarship at UMSL and recently made a planned gift through their life insurance.

“We give because the university is incredibly vital to St. Louis and our community,” Stan says. “Giving back and creating opportunities for others embodies the true spirit of UMSL.”

Did you know?

You can provide a gift from life insurance by making UMSL the owner and beneficiary of your whole or universal life insurance policy. And premium payments for a new policy, or one you’re still paying for, become charitable deductions.



Call **Kent Krober**, director of planned giving at UMSL, at 314-516-4115 or send a message to kroberk@umsl.edu to learn more about the many planned giving options offered.



Capturing Cleveland High one **click** at a time

UMSL professor photographs his vacant, deteriorating alma mater

By Ryan Heinz

Dan Younger isn't apt to wax nostalgic about his old high school but that didn't stop him from lugging his camera equipment to the shuttered Cleveland High School in south St. Louis. Younger, professor of art at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, shot its interior several times last year. The reason why is simple.

"I'm nosy," says Younger, whose towering build is often clad in black and white from his fedora to his Chuck Taylor shoes. "It wasn't about a sad farewell. It was more about me being curious, going from room to room to see what was left in it."

CHS is a brick behemoth known to locals as "the castle" due to the two turrets protruding from the school's midsection.

continued



All photos by Dan Younger (pictured) unless otherwise noted



Above, top: Photo by Alycia Hinderliter
Above, middle: Photo by Julianne Wise
Above, bottom: Photo by Veronica Vollmer
At left: Photo by August Jennewein

Many of Younger's photos reveal interior graffiti, crumbling plaster and a treasure trove of left-behind items. Those scenes are not what shocked Younger the most about the school.

"There were rooms that are still immaculate," he says. "There are parts of the building that haven't had any damage. You literally could teach a class in one."

In fact, Younger's photography students used CHS as a learning space. Several accompanied him on one occasion to document the school.

Named for President Grover Cleveland, CHS was designed by celebrated St. Louis school architect William B. Ittner. It served

as a public high school from 1915 to 1984 and then as the Cleveland Junior Naval ROTC magnet school until 2006, when the structure was closed due to deteriorating conditions.

St. Louis Public Schools, which owns CHS, has no immediate plans to revive or sell the building. Patrick Wallace, chief communications officer at SLPS, says the district is working with the community to analyze potential plans for usage. But it won't be cheap. SLPS officials figure it could cost between \$17 million and \$22 million to resuscitate CHS.

The Alliance to Save Cleveland High has sprung up to preserve the neighborhood icon. John Chen, co-founder of the organization,

"It wasn't about a sad farewell. It was more about me being **curious**,



says the alliance has developed a proposal to reopen CHS as a learning and community center hybrid funded by public and private dollars.

Photos by Younger and his students have circulated through the Cleveland High School Staff-Alumni Association, for which Younger is a board member. The images have also been viewed at UMSL during a lecture and collected for a book.

"Pictures are worth so many thousands of words," Chen says. "We are hoping that more people can see Dan's photos and it will inspire people to do something about (CHS)."

While Younger did not set out to save CHS with his photography project, he says he's not fond of buildings going to waste, especially when he's seen the successful rehabilitation of worse-off properties.

"Cleveland looks great from the outside," Younger says. "It's just kind of this funny abandoned thing. You hate to think of it as a metaphor for the city, but it's just another formerly great thing that's been abandoned."

Visit <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/910468> to view CHS photos by Younger and his students or to purchase the book "Cleveland High School: Exploring an Abandoned Landmark." ≡

going from **room to room** to see what was left in it." —dan younger





GOING MOBILE

UMSL 'vision van' delivers eye care to patients

By Ryan Heinz

Brandon Swink and Ashley Craven sit back-to-back in swivel stools. The University of Missouri–St. Louis optometry students are aboard UMSL's Mobile Eye Center, an eye clinic on wheels replete with examination chairs and vision testing equipment. They are completely immersed in their work, dividing their attention between eye-chart monitors and patients, a pair of young girls from Pine Lawn (Missouri) Elementary School.

Using a remote control, Craven switches the letters on her screen, also inadvertently changing Swink's display. Not missing a beat, the students have a quick, professional exchange on how best to avoid future mishaps, then dive back into their examinations. There are, after all, several more students

scheduled to receive comprehensive eye exams that day.

While the tight, wood-paneled confines of the 25-foot, three-compartment MEC are not necessarily ideal, it is no doubt suitable for serving patients. In fact, it's essential for addressing an unmet need, serving people with vision problems who otherwise wouldn't receive eye care. Of the 10 Pine Lawn Elementary students examined that day, eight were prescribed eyeglasses.

"It's really important that we get these students into glasses," says Stephen Purdy, a third-year optometry student at UMSL, who was working for the third time on the MEC. "This is a critical period in their lives when their brains are still developing.

Once you've reached a certain age, it becomes more difficult to recuperate from vision problems."

The American Optometric Association estimates that 80 percent of learning opportunities are through vision. Furthermore, the organization reports vision disorders are the fourth most common disability in children and the most prevalent barrier to learning. Yet 90 percent of children needing prescription eyeglasses don't have them, according to the AOA.

The College of Optometry is working to change that. As of February, the MEC had served 198 children at 13 schools in five St. Louis-area school districts. UMSL's optometry students and faculty also gave preliminary vision screenings to hundreds of additional students.



Dr. Linda Marks, assistant clinical professor of optometry at UMSL, performs an eye exam on a Pine Lawn Elementary School student aboard UMSL's Mobile Eye Center while student Ashley Craven observes. (Photo by August Jennewein)

The MEC came to fruition through a Housing and Urban Development grant and hit the road in fall 2004.

In addition to serving area schools several times a week, the MEC visits senior centers one day a week. The goal for the unit is to drive through the three roadblocks that separate patients from doctors: distance, time and affordability.

The exam fees, which for some patients can be paid through Medicaid, cover some vehicle upkeep, gas and the driver. The optometry students work for the experience, and participating faculty are on the university's payroll.

Dr. Linda Marks, assistant clinical professor of optometry at UMSL, goes out with the MEC

once a week and oversees the university's students as they administer the exams. She says the MEC delivers its benefits down a two-way street.

"Our students obtain pediatric experience by seeing a wide variety of patients, many who need prescriptions," Marks says. "Meanwhile, the children undergo a complete eye exam, which they wouldn't otherwise receive because often times parents don't have the resources to take them to an eye doctor."

UMSL optometry faculty and students conduct screenings at the school in advance of a visit from the MEC. For Pine Lawn Elementary, that meant converting the library into a temporary clinic where nearly every student's eyes were screened to determine if he or she needed a comprehensive exam,

Mary Buchek, a registered nurse at Bel Nor Elementary School, has worked in the Normandy (Missouri) School District for 16 years. She had never before seen a service similar to what is known around her school as "the vision van." More than 110 students at Bel Nor Elementary have been prescribed corrective eyeglasses since the van began making its rounds there.

"I feel very fortunate that we are so lucky to have the university right here in our backyard and that they're so generous with their time and resources to provide this wonderful service to our students," Buchek says. "It means the difference between having and not having glasses for a lot of our students."

Call 314-516-6509 for more information about the Mobile Eye Center at UMSL. ≡

CASH

IN THE

CREASE



Sled hockey goalie Steve Cash wins gold at Winter Paralympics

By Jack Crosby and Tom Hockett

Perfect. It's likely how sled hockey fans will recall U.S. goaltender Steve Cash's performance at the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games.

Cash and his teammates defeated Japan 2-0 on March 20 to win the gold medal in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The victory capped off a tournament in which the U.S. shut out all five opponents it faced, becoming the first team in Paralympic history to not allow a single goal throughout the tournament.

Cash, of Overland, Mo., played 210 minutes in the tourney and halted each of the 33 shots sent his way, including five saves in the gold medal game.

The most thrilling stop of the afternoon came in the second period after Japan's captain Takayuki Endo was brought down on a breakaway. On the resulting penalty shot, the speedy Endo skated in and snapped a quick one from about seven

feet outside the crease. Cash whipped up his glove and snared the chest-high shot, preserving his team's 1-0 lead.

"Honestly, I didn't think he was going to shoot," the mild-mannered Cash says. "He's a quick guy, so I thought he was going to try and go around me. Even though I was caught off guard, luckily, I got my glove up there and made the save."

The win over Japan means the U.S. is the first sled hockey team to lay claim to two Paralympic gold medals. The U.S. last won gold at the 2002 Paralympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

"When we won at Vancouver, the past five years flashed before my eyes," Cash says. "These games are what everyone trains for, day in and day out. Knowing all that hard work paid off is rewarding."

Cash turned 21 on May 9. He was only 15 when he earned a spot on the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team, and he took over the starting role in 2007.

UMSL sophomore Steve Cash won a sled hockey gold medal in March at the Paralympic Winter Games. He began playing the sport for the Junior Blues Sled Hockey Program, which is part of the Disabled Athlete Sports Association in St. Peters, Mo.



U.S. sled hockey goalie Steve Cash (#34) clenches the puck after stopping a penalty shot by Japan's Takayuki Endo (#10). The save helped the U.S. win a gold medal at the Paralympic Winter Games.

"It's just amazing," says Don Cash, Steve's father. "It's kind of hard to believe, even after all this time."

Sled hockey, called "sledge hockey" in Europe and Asia, enables athletes with lower body disabilities to play hockey. Players sit on metal sleds. Except for the goaltender, players use two sticks. The sticks have metal picks on the butt end for players to propel themselves.

"Our sport is unique, because we use our arms and our arms only," Cash says.

As an infant, he was diagnosed with cancer in his right leg. He was 3 when part of the limb was amputated and has worn a prosthesis ever since.

Cash is a sophomore majoring in business administration at the University of Missouri—St. Louis.

The university and hockey are family affairs for the Cashes. Steve's older brother, James, holds a master's degree in accounting from UMSL, and another brother, Mike, currently attends the university. Both James and Mike are members of UMSL's club hockey team that won the 2009 National Collegiate Roller Hockey Association Division I championship.

Cash says nothing can top the honor he feels in winning a gold medal. But it's not the only recognition that's come his way this year. In March,

the U.S. Olympic Committee named Cash one of its Athletes of the Month for his performance at the Paralympics. In January, he was named the USOC Paralympic SportsMan of the Year.

Moreover, Cash is considered by many in the sport to be the best sled hockey netminder in the world.

"It's a tremendous honor, but I'm just out there doing my job, which is to keep the puck out of the net," Cash says. "I'm humbled by the title they've given me, but I have to make sure I stay on an even keel and go out there and execute." ≡



Pitching in

How UMSL students serve the St. Louis area

By Kylie Shafferkoetter

The Parent Resource Room at Normandy (Missouri) School District headquarters features warm, mocha-colored walls and a comfortable living room area with burnt orange and brown throw pillows and a matching accent rug. Inspirational art and newly built bookshelves adorn the neatly partitioned room.

But that wasn't always the case. Before a recent makeover, the space was enclosed in stark, white walls that gave it a generic office feel.

"It definitely was not inviting before," says Vikki Collier, parent involvement coordinator for the school district. "Now parents have a place to sit with their kids, and there is more privacy. That's important."

The room's transformation was the result of work by students from the University of Missouri—St. Louis. They spent Martin Luther King Jr. Day painting, organizing and decorating three family resource rooms at schools in the district.

"It was so much fun," Collier says. "Everyone came together and just got it done."

The one-day remodeling project was a small part of a larger commitment from the university. Within an economic climate of foreclosures, budget cuts and layoffs, UMSL students are helping fulfill the housing and education needs of the community in which they live and learn—the St. Louis area. Through the new UMSL Students of Service program, more than 1,400 students will log more than 23,000 hours of service and are working side-by-side with community leaders, teachers and residents.

The SOS program is funded by a \$425,000, three-year Learn and Serve America Higher Education grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service. The College of Education and the Community Partnership Project at UMSL administer the program. University partners include the Office of Student Life, Center for Teaching and Learning and School of Social Work.

"The current economic crisis has exacerbated the housing issues both locally and nationally," says Kay Gasen, director of the SOS program and urban program leader at the university. "SOS projects address community



Mike Williams, UMSL senior and member of the national service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega, sews together patches on Jan. 18. The patches were painted by other volunteers and were used to form quilts for terminally ill children. (Photo by Danny Reise)

priorities, while also enhancing learning for our students and encouraging a lifelong commitment to service."

The grant kicked in during the fall when UMSL students organized a uniform drive for the Normandy School District and a food drive for the Pagedale (Missouri) Family Support Center. Then on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, more than 150 students helped remodel the three district resource rooms and prepped rental houses for Beyond Housing, a nonprofit organization that provides homeownership services to low-income families in St. Louis. UMSL has formed a partnership with the organization to help in multiple ways.

Chris Krehmeyer, president and chief executive officer of Beyond Housing, says this kind of formalized partnership brings much-needed resources to his organization, as well as some peace of mind.

At left: Joshua Harvey, a junior majoring in biology at UMSL, cleans up brush March 29 at a house in Pagedale, Mo. The house is owned by Beyond Housing, a nonprofit organization that provides support services for low-income homeowners in the St. Louis area. (Photo by August Jennewein)

continued

"It's great to be able to make plans with UMSL in mind because we know this has longevity," Krehmeyer says. "UMSL students are enthusiastic, fun and ready to work. They show up because they want to be there."

So far this year, UMSL volunteers have twice helped clean up foreclosed houses, tearing up old carpet, clearing brush and hauling trash. "If they didn't do that work, we would have to pay people to do it. It really makes a difference," Krehmeyer says.

Service learning also is a large part of the SOS program. UMSL has four courses with a service-learning component and will add more.

Beyond Housing is the biggest client of Kristy Tucciarone's advertising students. Two classes met with staff from the organization and assessed needs. Beyond Housing asked the students to create door hangers that provide information about the organization and the services it provides. Students designed the hangers and distributed a portion of the 10,000 that were printed. In all, 10 municipalities near UMSL were included in the door-hanger campaign.

"It's a great way for students to get a real piece for their portfolio while applying the curriculum," says Tucciarone, assistant teaching professor of media studies at UMSL. "The project connects students to the community, and Beyond Housing gets a printed piece designed for free."

Krehmeyer says he's thrilled to be a part of UMSL's curriculum.

"We've never had door hangers before," he says. "They will get

a lot of information into the hands of people who need it. Plus, the students hung them for us. It's a great way to show and teach folks about community development work."

Charles Schmitz, dean of the College of Education, agrees.

"Universities are important partners with their communities," he says. "A college education, and all education for that matter, is much more than earning a grade, writing a paper or passing a test. Through the SOS program, we are fulfilling our responsibility of educating students for a life as responsible citizens, in addition to preparing them for careers."

UMSL students are carrying out several service projects. Education majors assist Normandy School District teachers in the classroom and during after-school tutoring sessions. A composition class is sending students to help at Girls Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides educational programs to girls. Business writing students will create business plans for nonprofits. And students in the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program work with English students in St. Louis-area high schools. (See sidebar.)

Stanton E. Lawrence, superintendent of Normandy School District, says learn-and-serve projects benefit everyone involved.

"When we talk about the future with our students, we talk about college, careers and citizenship," he says. "UMSL students are excellent role models and examples for our students. And I think



Karyssa Paris, a freshman nursing major at UMSL, paints a table Jan. 18 at Normandy (Missouri) High School. She was one of more than 150 student volunteers who participated in a day of service in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. (Photo by Danny Reise)

it gives UMSL students an opportunity to help in a setting where students don't have many of the advantages they may have had."

One role model Lawrence mentions by name is Kelcy Siddall. He graduated from Normandy High School and is pursuing a master's degree in public policy administration at UMSL.

"The more our students see young people in college, the more it raises the possibility we will see more of our students become like Kelcy," Lawrence says.

Siddall, 26, works as a graduate assistant for the SOS program. He helps the student leadership team create community service projects, like working on the 2010 census and setting up campus tours for elementary students.

"I am a product of Normandy," Siddall says. "I see it as an obligation to go back and help the community. The SOS program builds leadership skills, organizational skills and, on a personal level, it's very gratifying."

Call 314-516-5294 or send a message to stulife3@umsl.edu for more information about the Students of Service program at UMSL. ≡



Camille McCaw, 11, asks a question during science class at Girls Inc., a national nonprofit youth organization in Northwoods, Mo. (Photo by August Jennewein)

UMSL garners national recognition for being neighborly

The list was a short one. In October, the University of Missouri–St. Louis was named one of the nation's Top 25 "Best Neighbor" Colleges and Universities. The ranking is part of the annual Savior of Our Cities survey conducted by Evan S. Dobelle, president of Westfield State College in Massachusetts. The institutions were selected for their work creating positive partnerships with surrounding urban communities. The study looked at both commercial and residential activities, such as revitalization, cultural renewal, economics and community service and development. UMSL tied for 14th place with the University of Houston and University of Missouri–Kansas City.

Writers in the Schools

By Rose Postma

Sarah Welch and Patrick Harned stand before a classroom filled with English students at Maplewood-Richmond Heights High School in Maplewood, Mo. Welch asks them to get out a piece of paper. They stare at her a moment before reaching into their backpacks and pulling out lap tops. Welch smiles and shrugs as she waits for the students to turn on their computers. She gives them a writing prompt and begins circulating through the room answering questions as the students type furiously.

Welch and Harned are fiction writers in the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program at the University of Missouri–St. Louis and volunteers for Writers in the Schools, a national organization that sends writers into nearby schools to teach creative writing.

During a late February visit, the duo guides the Maplewood English class through writing exercises that parallel existing work the students are completing with their teacher, Derek Rowley.

"If you focus on everything, it will be too much," Harned tells the students. "Don't be afraid to revise. Everyone suffers from awful first draft syndrome."

Some of the students nod.

"I didn't realize that I could use a story in my informative essay, but now I know how to use one," says Theresa Peterson, 16, of Maplewood.

MFA students from UMSL have been visiting Rowley's class for several years. And during the 2009-10 academic year, they've taught at several other St. Louis-area schools, including Lafayette High School, Nerinx Hall High School and Christian Brothers College High School.

"It's always helpful to have actual experts in the field talk to the students," Rowley says. "The MFA students are typically thoughtful and engaging and are great academic models for the students." ≡



Theresa Peterson (left) and Gabrielle Williams are seniors at Maplewood-Richmond Heights High School. They discuss writing narrative leads with UMSL graduate student Patrick Harned. (Photo by August Jennewein)



Delbert Green (left), of Normandy, Mo., looks on as UMSL accounting students Thien-An Hoang and David Kowalczyk prepare Green's 2009 income tax return. (Photo by August Jennewein)

Every penny counts

UMSL students prepare tax returns for low-income residents

By Jennifer Hatton

On a cold afternoon in February, Nanette Cobbins and her five-year-old grandson, Jared, wait patiently inside a large room in the Barr branch of the St. Louis Public Library.

Cobbins is on disability and unable to work. She lives on a fixed income, so when tax season rolls around, she's looking to file her taxes and not break the bank.

"Last year I went to Jackson Hewitt, and they charged me \$200," Cobbins says. "I can't afford that."

This year, a neighbor told her about a service offered by the University of Missouri–St. Louis. A free service.

"For someone like me, who needs every penny to count, free is the best kind of service," she says, smiling.

The College of Business Administration at UMSL has offered the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program since 1973.

Lindell Chew, founder and organizer of the program and senior instructor of marketing at UMSL, says VITA is truly a win-win service-learning opportunity.

"Through this enriching program, we are giving back to the community, to those who otherwise couldn't afford this service," Chew says. "And we are giving our UMSL students hands-on, real-world experiences."

Each year, students undergo several weeks of tax preparation training, testing and certification. They learn about updated tax laws, as well as advancements to TaxWise, the software used for the VITA program.

More than 1,700 business students, alumni and faculty have offered free tax preparation services to low-income taxpayers and senior citizens at several locations throughout the St. Louis area. VITA is the largest university-based personal income tax service in the region. More than 2,100 tax returns were filed through the program in the last two years alone.

UMSL student David Kowalczyk is a newcomer to the VITA program. The seasoned tax preparer worked for more than a decade at a tax firm but now finds himself back in school.

"It's amazing," Kowalczyk says. "I'm giving a service to people, a service I used to charge hundreds of dollars for. I'm now doing it for free, and it feels wonderful to help people in need."

He says working for VITA is an eye-opening experience.

"I never realized how many people needed a service like this," Kowalczyk says. "You really just don't think about it until you see the people, work with them and hear their stories. Then you understand how you truly are helping."

One person he's assisting is Delbert Green, a retired General Motors employee who lives in Normandy, Mo. Green says the free tax service is vital to many low-income and retired people throughout the St. Louis area.

"I think this is a great service, one that is desperately needed," Green says. "Taxes are something everyone has to do, no matter what you make, but not everyone can afford to pay a company or an accountant to do them. Services like this help the less affluent folks."

UMSL senior Nicole Chamberlain says VITA is a great service-learning program for students.

"I'm an accounting major and not sure what area I want to go into when I graduate," Chamberlain says. "Participating in VITA has given me a chance to have interaction with clients, as well as the experience of preparing returns."

In 2009, VITA received the Internal Revenue Service's National Partnership Award for Outstanding Community Service in the category of Sustained Superior Performance.

"The strength of our program is a core of dedicated coordinators and certified volunteers," Chew says. "Through the program, our volunteers are able to give back to the community. It gives them the opportunity to help those who otherwise would not have the means to prepare their returns."

The IRS gives the National Partnership Award to organizations for outstanding community service. Last year, seven university Beta Alpha Psi chapters received awards in five different categories. There are 279 national and international chapters eligible for the awards.

The Gamma Psi Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, UMSL's Department of Accounting, GECC Tax Coalition and the IRS sponsor VITA. Visit <http://www.ums.edu/~vita/> for more information about the program. ≡



Todd Swanstrom is the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor of Community Collaboration and Public Policy Administration at UMSL. (Photo by August Jennewein)

Public policy professor spreads message: Home foreclosures affect more than hapless borrowers

By Jack Crosby

In a small meeting room at the Immanuel United Church of Christ in Ferguson, Mo., Todd Swanstrom settles into a chair and begins a presentation to the Ferguson-Florissant Branch of the American Association of University Women.

He starts by asking a question: "What is a foreclosure?"

Swanstrom, the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor of Community Collaboration and Public Policy Administration at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, has talked with many community organizations, civic groups and government agencies about foreclosures – a topic that has touched many American lives and received blame for the ailing U.S. economy.

"The primary cause of the present crisis is the surge in subprime and predatory lending products between 2000 and 2006," Swanstrom says. "The lack of regulation of mortgage brokers resulted in many people taking out loans they did not understand and that were unsustainable."

Now, a vicious cycle is at work. Swanstrom says subprime loans, many of them made to poor and minority populations, caused the original rash of foreclosures. The foreclosures fueled the recession, which led to an increase in unemployment that creates even more foreclosures, he says.

Swanstrom's presentations are based on research he conducted on the effects of foreclosures. In May 2009, he released the study "Regional Resilience in the Face of Foreclosures: Evidence from Six Metropolitan Areas," co-written by Karen Chapple, associate professor of city and regional planning at the University of California, Berkeley, and Dan Immergluck, associate professor of city and regional planning at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

The study, funded by The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, looks at how six metropolitan areas – St. Louis, Cleveland, Chicago, Atlanta, Riverside, Calif., and the East Bay area in California – responded to the foreclosure crisis.

Swanstrom presented his findings to a number of groups, both locally and nationally. Governments and nonprofit organizations, he says, need to respond to foreclosure spillover effects, such as declining property values, social disorder, crime and local government stress.

Even people who are not involved in foreclosures could suffer negative effects.

"Research shows that property owners within one-eighth of a mile lose value," Swanstrom says. "We estimate that St. Louis County has suffered \$600 million in lost property values."

As to social disorder and crime, Swanstrom refers to what he called the "broken windows theory."

"It is said that abandoned and boarded-up homes create an atmosphere that encourages crime," he says.

In 2009, the nonprofit Center for Responsible Lending estimated that two million children nationally had been directly affected by the foreclosure crisis, including 33,900 in Missouri. The negative effects of involuntary moves, such as those caused by foreclosures, can include a 50-percent reduction in high school graduation rates, a 20-percent increase in the possibility of violent behavior in high school and negative effects on diet and body weight, according to the center.

Local government stressors include declining property tax revenues, delinquent payment of utility service fees and rising property taxes.

State and local governments can work to mitigate the effects of foreclosures, Swanstrom says, by preventing them, helping to keep families in their homes and discouraging risky lending.

Debbie Irwin is a housing counselor at the St. Louis-based nonprofit organization Beyond Housing. She says a primary impediment to preventing foreclosures and keeping families in their homes has been the behavior of mortgage servicers.

"It's a bureaucratic nightmare," she says. "It's very difficult for a lone homeowner to navigate the system. The behavior of the loan servicers has been a big obstacle."

It's a viewpoint that Swanstrom shares with Irwin.

"(Loan servicers) sometimes have incentives to not help homeowners," he says.

Individual homeowners can find help, though. Beyond Housing is a member of the Metro St. Louis Foreclosure Intervention Task Force, a consortium of nonprofit organizations, government agencies, banks and real estate professionals that works to decrease the number of foreclosures to preserve homeownership and stabilize neighborhoods.

Irwin advises homeowners to continue to communicate with their loan servicers and seek help from a housing counselor.

"We don't have a magic button, but it helps to have a counselor," she says.

Swanstrom is preparing an evaluation of Beyond Housing's foreclosure counseling program, as well as a study on foreclosures in Missouri and the state's response to the crisis.

"We need to get over the idea that people in foreclosure are to blame," Swanstrom says. "When a firefighter comes to a burning home, he doesn't stop to ask whether the homeowner is at fault. He puts out the fire. We need to act the same with regard to foreclosures." ■

Heels, handbags and DAN BEGLEY

By Rose Postma

Dan Begley is an expert on women, but it wasn't always that way. He spent several years toiling on his literary masterpiece, filling the manuscript with beautiful sentences, similes and symbols. Yet he couldn't find anyone to publish it.

One night Robin, his wife, made a suggestion. She said he should try writing chick lit. Begley was dumbfounded, but Robin said to at least consider it.

He was familiar enough with the genre to know it was written for women, by women.

But then he started to seriously think about it.

"She told me to think about what kinds of books sell and what kinds of books attract people's attention," Begley says. "I had such a visceral reaction to her suggestion that I knew there must be a story premise there."

And there was.

He spent the next two hours creating a rough outline for his novel "Ms. Taken Identity." It's the story of a clueless PhD candidate named Mitch Samuel who turns to writing chick lit after publishers reject his novel. Sound familiar?

Mitch, who is recently single, needs a crash course in women, and in order to infiltrate their world of handbags, heels and chocolate he creates an alter ego named Jason who visits shopping malls, hair salons and even takes a dance class – all in the name of research.

Like any good story it can't all be smooth sailing, and things get complicated for Mitch. At the dance studio he falls for his best friend's sister, Marie. Then there's Molly, the student who lives to make him feel uncomfortable, and the beautiful Katharine Longwell, the queen of women's fiction, who's helping Mitch get his novel published.

Begley, BA English 1990 and MFA 1999, is a St. Louis native and says the University of Missouri–St. Louis was an easy choice for him because he knew he would receive an excellent education and he loved living in St. Louis.



UMSL alumnus Dan Begley demonstrates the research methods he used to write the novel "Ms. Taken Identity." He's at a women's clothing store at the St. Louis Galleria in Richmond Heights, Mo. (Photo by August Jennewein)

Begley honors the region by setting the novel here. He says St. Louisans will recognize many of the places described in the novel.

In the book, Mitch must come to terms with writing pop fiction rather than serious literary fiction, and Begley had to do the same thing.

"I thought literature was James Joyce or Joseph Conrad, and I tried to imitate them but even when doing that there was always the impulse to tell a story, to entertain, to get people to enjoy, laugh and smile," he says. "One of my professors once told me that there is no substitute for telling a really great story, and I hope that's what I've done."

Begley's book gets people talking, but the question he gets most often is not about what it's like to be a guy writing chick lit. Almost everyone wants to know if those are his legs on the cover.

"They aren't my legs," he says, grinning. "But those are my slippers."

"Ms. Taken Identity" was released in June by 5 Spot. The 272-page book is available for \$13.99 at <http://www.amazon.com/>. ☰

PAT GADELL AND MARIETTA ABELE

Giving back, one month at a time



UMSL alumni Pat Gadell and Marietta Abele and their standard poodle Brinkley are all big supporters of the university. (Photo by August Jennewein)

By Maureen Zegel

“‘Philanthropy’ is a big word, which connotes old wealth,” Pat Gadell says. “Our point is you don’t need to be wealthy or old to endow a scholarship at the University of Missouri—St. Louis. If you choose to make a difference, you can.”

Gadell, an attorney, and his wife, Marietta Abele, a nurse, have pledged and endowed multiple scholarships to honor their family and friends. Both UMSL alumni, they say their mission is to have other alumni join them. They’re assembling a group of close friends, 10 couples, most of them UMSL grads, who will commit to an investment in college students who share similar dreams and aspirations.

Gadell says his passion for supporting scholarship recipients comes from his own experiences. He grew up in Normandy, Mo., the youngest of six children of Depression-era parents.

“UMSL was a necessity for me, not a choice,” he says. “It was close and affordable. When I started in 1969 there were two buildings and a construction site. It’s where Marietta and I met, where we made so many friends. We were all

middle-class, first-generation college kids. And we have remained friends for more than 40 years.”

Gadell earned a bachelor’s degree in political science in 1973 at UMSL. Abele earned two degrees at UMSL – a bachelor’s degree in history in 1974 and a master’s degree in education in 1986. There’s a sea of red and gold at their family gatherings with a total of eight UMSL alumni.

Gadell touts a “budget plan” for the 10 couples that makes giving nearly painless. It’s a formula he’s used for his own philanthropy. For the next three years, each of the couples will pay \$83 a month. That totals \$30,000, the cost of an endowed scholarship at UMSL.

“Nobody has to write a big fat check; \$83 is the cost of a utility bill,” he says. “And in three years you start to change lives. Forever.”

Gadell has persuaded six couples to commit to the idea so far.

“Fewer contributors are needed if someone works for a company that matches donations,” he says.

Before their most recent scholarship effort, Gadell, Abele and their families had already pledged and endowed five scholarships. Two of the scholarships pay tribute to their mothers, neither of whom had the opportunity to attend college.

“My mother always wanted to be a nurse, but in those days women weren’t encouraged to go to college,” Abele says. “Once her kids grew up, she earned an associate’s degree in science at Meramec Community College and became a docent at the Saint Louis Zoo. It was work she loved.”

The Georgia “Sue” Dmytryszyn Scholarship in Nursing is a tribute from Abele and her father, Myron Dmytryszyn.

Gadell and his family endowed a scholarship in their mother’s name in UMSL’s College of Optometry. Helen Gadell worked for many years in the optical business.

“I began with a \$500 donation to the College of Optometry as a Christmas present for my mom in 1997,” Gadell says. “I continued on the ‘budget plan,’ finally endowing the scholarship at the end of 2009.”

Gadell and Abele say they are happy to join a growing list of alumni who give back and set good examples for others.

“The kids are grown,” Gadell says. “There are no more tuition payments or wedding bills. Many UMSL alums are becoming leaders in the community, running businesses and hitting their stride. We encourage people to form a group and do this. Someone just has to take the initiative.”

From 'oversized brick' cell phones in the 1990s to integrated wireless devices today, AT&T veteran **RICK LINDNER** has seen it all



Rick Lindner, BSBA 1977, is senior executive vice president and chief financial officer of AT&T. (Photo by Mark Katzman)

By Linda Tracy

Rick Lindner is practically addicted to his iPhone. But unlike most iPhone devotees, he's got a good excuse for his addiction. Lindner is senior executive vice president and chief financial officer for the telecommunications giant AT&T. Finance and technology are part of his daily life, and so are his favorite iPhone applications – Scrabble and Major League Baseball's At Bat 2010.

With headquarters in Dallas, AT&T provides millions of customers a number of telecommunications services, including telephone, digital television, Internet and wireless devices. And AT&T is the only service provider of Apple's popular iPhone.

Lindner, BSBA 1977, is a native St. Louisan who transferred to the University of Missouri–St. Louis in 1974 as a business major. His previous major was music education.

"I'd decided that I didn't want to be a music teacher after all," Lindner says. "That's when I changed my major to business. I knew the reputation of the business program at UMSL, and I was paying my own way through school, so transferring to the university was the best choice for me."

Lindner worked in finance for several years in St. Louis before moving out of the area with his wife and three children. Since 1986, he's held several positions within the SBC family of companies. (SBC acquired AT&T in 2005 and the company's name then changed to AT&T.)

He's now responsible for the company's accounting, financial reporting and planning, tax functions, internal auditing and credit collection operations. Out of 280,000 AT&T employees, about 11,500 report to Lindner.

"One of the primary responsibilities of the CFO is that you have to feel you're representing the shareowner in terms of how decisions are made within the company," Lindner says. "Many of the company's projects are long-term investments, so deciding where to invest and how much to invest is a key part of my job."

While wireless devices make up the fastest growing segment of AT&T's business, Lindner says the company also focuses on other areas of investment, such as the improvement of broadband connectivity and the integration of AT&T's wired and wireless networks.

AT&T's business plan is working well. Last year, the company posted fourth-quarter wireless service revenues of \$12.6 billion, up 9.2 percent from the same quarter in 2008. AT&T added 2.7 million new subscribers in the fourth quarter of 2009. The company's total subscriber base reached 85.1 million last year.

"One of the amazing parts of the telecommunications business is the fact that it wasn't long ago when a cell phone was more of a novelty or luxury item," Lindner says. "Today, it's the centerpiece of how most people communicate through voice and data traffic."

Lindner, 55, recalls buying his first portable phone in the early 1990s. He describes it as an "oversized brick" and says he remembers lugging it everywhere. Now, Lindner doesn't even bring a laptop with him when he travels because his e-mail, spreadsheets, calendar and contacts are all on a phone that fits in his pocket.

"When you think about how quickly wireless technology and all telecommunications technology has changed over the past 20 years, it's really amazing," he says. "For me, that's the fun part of the business. The constant growth and the new devices that are being launched keep me on my toes." ■

Alumni news

Below: Alumni Ben Poremba (left) and Mark Sanfilippo own and operate Salume Beddu, a St. Louis-based company that creates artisan cured meats. Their hors d'oeuvres delighted guests at the Red and Gold Bash, the kickoff event for UMSL's second annual Alumni Weekend.



At right: UMSL alumnus Steve Gomez discovers that Louie isn't stingy with the love.



Alumni Weekend April 16-17, 2010



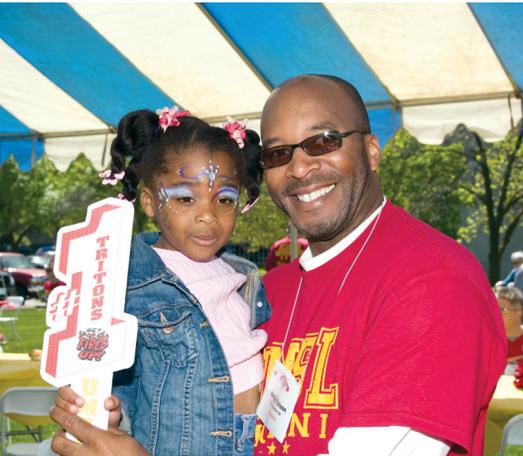
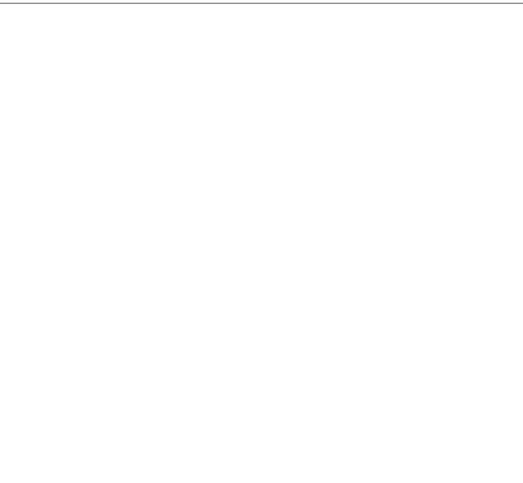
Above: UMSL alumni Kyle Naes (left) and Scott Willer enjoy cards and reconnecting April 17 at Alumni Weekend. (Photo by Maurice Meredith)



Above: Former UMSL baseball players wish the current team good luck prior to a home doubleheader on April 17. The UMSL Tritons lost both games to Drury University (Springfield, Mo.).



At left: Frank Cusumano, BA speech communication 1984, was the guest auctioneer April 16 at the Red and Gold Bash. He's a sports reporter at KSDK (Channel 5).



All photos by August Jennewein unless otherwise noted

At left:
Gregg Tolson, BA communication 1998, lives in Pasadena Hills, Mo. He and his daughter Zoie, 4, enjoy the beautiful weather at the Tritons Baseball Game Tailgate on April 17.

Ring, ring

Call center raises funds for UMSL

If you get a telephone call from the University of Missouri–St. Louis, you will likely be talking with a student in the campus call center. The center was established to raise funds for student scholarships and academic programs. The student callers are the very same young people who will be helped by your gift. They work hard throughout the academic year to reach alumni, parents and friends of the university.

Curtis Bradley (pictured) is a sophomore media studies major from Hazelwood, Mo. “The best part about working in the call center,” he says, “is the experience of talking to different people on a nightly basis.”



Class notes

1967

David L. Zerrer, BA political science, is an administrative law judge for the Division of Workers Compensation for the State of Missouri and lives in Jefferson City, Mo.

1968

Bernie Zyk, BSBA, is executive vice president of Creative Printing Services in Clayton, Mo.



1970

Howard Paperner, BA political science, is city attorney for Maryland Heights, Mo., and Winchester, Mo. He was awarded the Lou Czech Award for outstanding contributions to municipal law by the Missouri Municipal Attorneys Association.

Milton Weis, BSBA, is an adviser with Wells Fargo in Chesterfield, Mo.

1973

Susan Duckworth, BA political science, recently retired as an attorney for the U.S. Postal Service and lives in Bethesda, Md.

James Schafers, BSBA, is a program manager with Phase 5 Consulting in Ballwin, Mo.

1976

Edward Herhold Jr., BS economics, is senior project manager at Boeing in Hazelwood, Mo.

Mark Wilhelm, BSBA, is chief executive officer of Safety National in St. Louis.

Letty Workman, BA philosophy, is assistant professor of marketing at Utah Valley University in Orem.

1977

Paula Hearn, BA psychology, is chief operating officer of The Empowered Church in St. Louis.

1978

Michael L. Avery, BSBA, is president and chief investment officer of Waddell & Reed Financial in Overland Park, Kan.

Janet (Bartels) Creath, BA speech communication, is the development director of Minds Eye, a nonprofit radio station in Belleville, Ill., that serves blind, visually impaired and print-disabled individuals.

Mike Golembieski, BSBA, is senior vice president of Solazyme, a San Francisco-based company.

Charles Young, MA political science, retired as budget director of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State after 34 years with the federal government.

1979

Michael Lyons, MA political science and BA political science 1978, is an attorney in Las Vegas.

1980

Daniel A. Clay, BSBA, is chief operating officer of Ladeki Restaurant Group in La Jolla, Calif.

Steven J. Morgan, BSBA, is director of finance transformations at Hostess Brands in Irving, Texas.

1981

Edith Lam-Nardone, MBA, is vice president of finance at DCS Corporation in Alexandria, Va.

1983

Linda Hermann, BA administrative justice, joined Spencer Fane Britt & Browne in the firm's Financial Services Practice Group in Clayton, Mo.



1986

Alan Earls, BS administration of justice, is warden at the Missouri Department of Correction's Fulton Reception and Diagnostic Center.



1987

Dave Parks, BSBA, is the chief financial officer of USA Mortgage in Creve Coeur, Mo.



Elda Seener, BSBA, is a financial consultant at Steamboat Financial Group in Washington, Mo., and is a member of the Washington Rotary Club and the Washington Area Chamber of Commerce. She is on the UMSL Alumni Association Governing Board.



1988

Patrick S. Lane, MEd and BS education 1980, is principal in the Hazelwood (Missouri) School District and recently celebrated 30 years in education.

1989

Vito Lucido, BA political science, is the transportation advocate at Delta Center for Independent Living in St. Charles, Mo., and the founder of the Missouri Disabled Water Ski Association.

1990

Andrea Stewart-Douglas, BSBA, is the Midwest regional director of INROADS in St. Louis.

1992

Dana Cope, BS criminology and criminal justice, lives in Bonita Springs, Fla., and is a nurse with Gulf Coast Primary Care.

Leslie Liep, PhD political science and MA public policy administration 1990, is associate professor and coordinator of the master of public administration program at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton.

Jeffrey Penn May, MEd and BA psychology 1976, wrote the book "Where the River Splits" (Libros International, 2008).

1993

Mary E. Abkemeier, MBA and BSBA 1987, is a senior accountant at Ralcorp in St. Louis.

1995

Bill Haeck, MBA, is the chief performance officer at One to One Interactive, a digital marketing agency in Boston.

Patrick McSalley, MBA, is the vice president of Payne-Crest Electric and Communications in Olivette, Mo.



1996

John Brocato, BA mathematics, was the 2009 recipient of the Northwest R-1 School District Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. He is a math teacher at Northwest Valley Seventh and Eighth Grade Center in House Springs, Mo.

Patricia Brown, BS education, is an instructional specialist in the Hazelwood (Missouri) School District.

Matthew Hayes, BA political science, lives in Denver, Col., where he works for the U.S. government.

1997

Todd Weaver, BGS, was named the 2009 Entrepreneur of the Year for the achievements of his company, Legacy Building Group. The award was presented Nov. 10 at the Salute to Excellence Business Awards luncheon.

1998

Denise Duggan, BS accounting, is owner of Spring Valley Accounting in Silex, Mo.

David Greene, BA communication, was selected as one the St. Louis Business Journal's "40 Under 40" honorees for 2010. He's president of Grand Slam Sports.

Laura Tisher, BA communication, is the director of marketing at Superkarts! USA in St. Louis.

1999

Michael McShane, BGS, teaches science at William B. Travis Academy-Vanguard for the Academically Talented and Gifted in Dallas and was named Teacher of the Year for 2009-10.

Elizabeth Powitzky,

BA psychology, was named a principal with Edward Jones in Des Peres, Mo.



Liz Sale, PhD political science and MA political science 1998, is research associate professor at the Missouri Institute of Mental Health in St. Louis.

Patricia Sparks, BA psychology, is a guidance counselor at the Northwest R-1 School District in High Ridge, Mo. In April 2009, she received her psychological examiner certification.

Monica

Stewart, MEd and BGS 1995, is the campus college chair for the College of Education at University of Phoenix and is a member of the UMSL Alumni Association Governing Board of Directors.



2000

Sandy Crews, PhD political science and MA political science 1998, is associate teaching professor in the Robert J. Trulaskie, Sr. College of Business at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Stephen Owen, PhD political science and MA political science 2000, is an associate professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at Radford University in Virginia.

2001

Clint Zweifel, MBA and BA political science 1986, was selected as one of the St. Louis Business Journal's "40 Under 40" honorees for 2010. He's Missouri State Treasurer.

2002

Nicole Colbert Botchway, MBA, was selected as one of the St. Louis Business Journal's "40 Under 40" honorees for 2010. She's unit leader of the Financial Services Division at the Missouri Attorney General's Office.

2003

Natasha Jenkins, OD, practices optometry at Scottsbluff Vision Clinic in Nebraska and was named one of Vision Monday's 50 Most Influential Women in Optometry.

Kristi Tanner-White, PhD political science, MA political science 1999 and MA public policy administration 1997, works for the Detroit Free Press and is part of a team of reporters and researchers who won a Pulitzer Prize in local reporting for their coverage on Detroit's former mayor. She also is part of an Emmy Award-winning project that looked at the foster care system in Michigan.

2004

Geoff Baker, BSBA, is assistant regional manager at CBIZ in Maryland Heights, Mo.

2005

Michael Wismann, BSBA finance, is employed by National City Bank in Valley Park, Mo., and is a member of the UMSL Alumni Governing Board of Directors.

2006

Robert Alton Clarke, BS public policy administration, was admitted to the Missouri Bar and appointed to the position of law clerk for Bob Beard of the 16th Judicial Circuit Court.

Andrea Collida, BS education, is an assistant teacher at Andrews Academy in St. Louis.

Terah Davis, MA communication, is employed at Towers Watson in St. Louis.

Matthew Pasley, MBA, is a supervisor of field support at Ameren in St. Louis.

Brian Salmo, BSBA, practices corporate law as an attorney at Polsinelli Shughart in Clayton, Mo.

Ben Schamber, MA secondary education, earned National Board Certification in Early Adolescence and Adolescence and Young Adulthood-Social Studies. He teaches world and European history at Pattonville High School in Maryland Heights, Mo.

Traci Wilson, MA political science, is an early stage researcher in a European Union-funded training network on electoral democracy. She also is a doctoral student at Oxford University in England.

2007

Rachel Mitchell, BS accounting, is a senior auditor at UHY in Maplewood, Mo.

Christine Phipps, EDSP, is school psychologist for the Special School District of St. Louis County.

Steven Pretak, BSBA, is collections manager at Client Services in St. Charles, Mo.

Dana Thomas, BSBA, is product regulatory manager at BASF Corporation in St. Louis.

2008

Cory Novak, MBA, is senior operations specialist at Scottrade in St. Louis.

Victoria Schrage, BS Education and BA English, is an English teacher at Lebanon (Missouri) R-III School District.

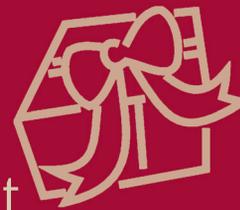
2009

Warren Popp, BA political science, is attending law school at Syracuse University in New York.

Louise Pooley, MBA and BS 2004, is president of Pooley Accounting Services in St. Louis.

Adam Wiseman, MEd and BA political science 2007, is employed by Teach for America and works on curriculum development in the St. Louis office.

Send your news to alumni@umsl.edu.



Give a gift and change a student's future

The demand for an education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis has never been greater. Freshman enrollment for the 2009-10 academic year increased 20 percent over the previous year, but the current economic situation makes it difficult for some students to stay in school.

Many students, when faced with personal financial challenges, are forced to reduce their credit hours while others stop taking classes altogether. The university has worked hard to keep education affordable without sacrificing excellence, but we must do more.

You can help by supporting our Stay in School Scholarship program. A one-time gift of \$150 or \$200 just might be the solution to a student's financial dilemma. A gift of \$35 per month can help cover the cost of books, and a gift of \$75 per month means that one student will be able to take an additional class.

Your gift, when combined with other gifts, will help many students earn a degree. These are students who graduate from UMSL, get jobs in the St. Louis area and bolster our economy and well-being.

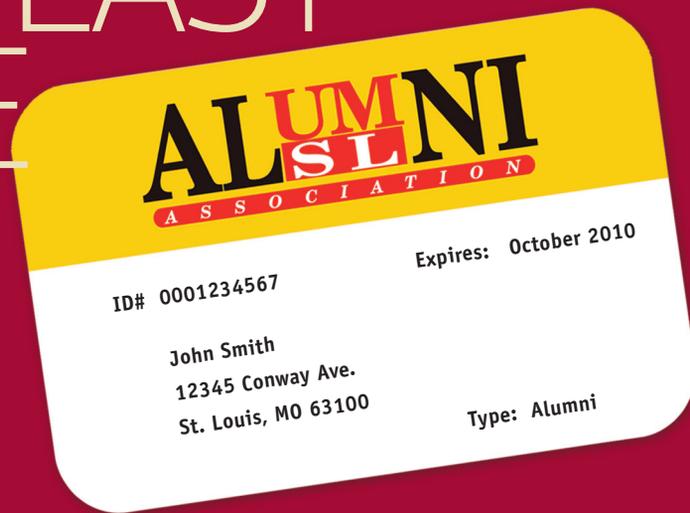
Call Greg Nelson at 314-516-4735 or send a message to annualfund@umsl.edu to learn how you can help UMSL students today.



University of Missouri–St. Louis
 252 General Services Building
 One University Blvd.
 St. Louis, MO 63121-4400
 2010036.81.5M.4/10sm

nonprofit org.
 U.S. postage
 paid
 St. Louis, MO
 permit no. 3

WHEN'S THE LAST TIME YOU GOT



Get a membership card to the University of Missouri–St. Louis Alumni Association, and join something special.

With more than 55,000 alumni just like you, we have the largest university alumni population in the St. Louis area. No alumni group exerts a more positive impact on the region than we do.

And your membership card will give you access to exclusive benefits:

- Career services discounts
- Hotel and car rental discounts
- Access to campus computer facilities
- Library privileges
- Invitations to networking events

Call 314-516-5833 or visit <http://www.umslalumni.org/>.

CARDED?

JOIN TODAY!