Influx of Impressive Public Office Hopefuls

The upcoming 2018 election cycle inspired a number of new participants in the Fall 2017 Pipeline to Public Office workshop. Many will be volunteering for campaigns, while others are running in 2018 for school board, city council, local or state offices.

The Institute was fortunate to have Casey Wheat, Political Director of the Missouri House Republican Campaign Committee (HRCC) offer her expertise in running for public office. Casey stressed the importance of developing a campaign plan, including analyzing the number of votes it takes to win a race, building a voter file, canvassing, and other forms of voter outreach.

Linda Rallo, Vice President of the Alliance for Childhood Education, presented information on a cohesive communication strategy in both higher-level, partisan campaigns and within local office, nonpartisan campaigns. This year, the Pipeline program also benefited from the fundraising experience of Michelle Wright. Michelle is President of Wright Direction, LLC and has been a successful fundraiser for political and charitable organizations for a number of years. Michelle presented the basics of fundraising including assessing potential donors, refining the “art of the ask,” and overcoming fear when asking potential donors for the funds every candidate needs.

Sally Faith, Mayor of St. Charles, and Gina Mitten, Missouri State Representative, facilitated the program’s campaign simulation this year with a fun and spirited exchange of ideas related to campaign ethics challenges. The participants also engaged in an enjoyable Q&A session with the Representative and (continued on page 2)
Above: Barbara Fraser, Education Liaison to the St. Louis County Executive (left), Renee Reuter, District 2 Councilwoman, Jefferson County Council (middle), and Ella Jones, Ward 1 Councilwoman, Ferguson City Council (right).

Right: Linda Rallo, Vice President of the Alliance for Childhood Education, outlines a cohesive communication strategy at the Institute’s Pipeline to Public Office workshop.

(Continued from page 1) Pipeline to Public Office 2017

Mayor regarding their campaign experiences.

The program was launched on Friday evening, November 3rd with a reception and panel discussion at the home of Betty Van Uum, Assistant to the Chancellor for Public Affairs at UMSL. The evening’s facilitators included: Renee Reuter, Councilwoman (District 2) and Chair of the Jefferson County Council, Barbara Fraser, Education Liaison of the St. Louis County Executive, and Ella Jones, Councilwoman (Ward 1) of the Ferguson City Council. Each facilitator shared her career path, challenges and rewards of campaigning and holding office. The participants benefited greatly from their candid and thoughtful comments regarding campaigns and public life.

Instead of holding two Pipeline workshops throughout the year, starting in 2018, the Institute will be holding one Pipeline to Public Office workshop annually, each November. We will be inviting both public and local candidates to this annual workshop and will cover both higher office (partisan) and local office (nonpartisan) aspects of campaign strategy within our overall curriculum.

The Institute is grateful to all who attended, our presenters and facilitators who shared their expertise. We look forward to seeing our participants “running for office in 2018”
Governor Eric Greitens has appointed a number of women to leadership positions on state boards and commissions over the past year. To date, the Governor’s Office has appointed 30 women to new public policy roles where they have joined a majority-female cabinet making positive change on important issues within the state. Among these prominent women, three have connections to the St. Louis area:

**Judge Carol Jackson** is one of five retired judges appointed to serve on the Governor’s Board of Inquiry (Fall 2017) on the Marcellus Williams case to further consider Williams’ request for executive clemency. Judge Jackson served on the Eastern District Court of Missouri from 1992–August 31, 2017 and as chief judge of that court from 2002-2009. She was the first African-American magistrate judge in the Eastern District of Missouri and the first African-American woman to serve as a district court judge in the Eastern District of Missouri.

Judge Jackson was also a trailblazer for the Court’s intensive drug treatment program for offenders under supervision and presided over that program until 2014. She has also served as a board member on the St. Louis Art Museum and Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis.

**Katie Jones** was appointed in October 2017 to serve a five-year term on the Governor’s Council on Disability (GCD). She is Director of Organizational Employment Services and Political Action at BCI. The GCD promotes full inclusion for numerous Missourians who have disabilities in all aspects of community life. They also educate citizens, business, schools, and universities about their organizational responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Jones earned her bachelor’s degree in social work from Lindenwood University. She is also a member of the National Association of Workforce Development and chairman of the legislative committee of the St. Charles County Coalition of Service providers.

**Dr. Katherine Mathews** was appointed in October 2017 to the Missouri medical licensing board. She is the Research Division Director for the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Women’s Health at Saint Louis University. She will begin working on the licensing board immediately but will have an official confirmation hearing in the Missouri Senate in January 2018.

Dr. Matthews is the first person the Governor appointed to the Missouri State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts as he focuses on the state’s opioid problem. The board disciplines doctors who violate standards of care. She is also particularly passionate about addressing disparities in infant mortality and access to cancer screening in various parts of Missouri. Dr. Mathews practices at both Saint Louis University Hospital and St. Mary’s Hospital in St. Louis, MO.

**Supporter ($50-$100)**

Lisa Brenner
Wallace Bryans
Doris Coleman
James Gates
Stephen Greenwood
Margean Kastner
Jane Langa
Carol Rosenbaum
Vetta Sanders Thompson
Julia Triplett
Vivian Zwick

**Hon. Camille Greenwald**
Scott & Michelle Harris
Jeanne Hartz
Amy Hoch-Hogenson
Monica Huddleston
Rea Beck Kleeman
Heather Lasher-Todd
Young-Im Lee
Hon. Brenda Loftin
Lelia Martin
Betty Renee Marver
Mary Moore-Johnson
Susan Petersen
Doris Banta Pree
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**FACULTY AFFILIATES**

Thanks also to our faculty affiliates for Summer/Fall 2017:

**Susan Block**
Paula, Camazine & Blumnethal
Opportunities to become a Missouri Circuit Judge are available in several counties, where the Nonpartisan Court plan is in effect. In St. Louis County, (the 21st Circuit) Judge Carolyn Whittington will retire, after serving since 2001. Applications to succeed her are due on January 3, 2018.

There are vacancies in Circuit Court positions for the City of St. Louis 22nd Circuit: Two Circuit Court positions and one Associate Circuit position opening. Previously, the vacant positions had been filled by men.

Applicants include men and women who are interviewed by the relevant Judicial Commission composed of two attorneys selected by the region’s Bar Association, two lay members from the region, who are appointed by the Governor, and the Presiding Judge from the next higher Court.

These interviews are open to the public and instructive regarding the workings of the MO Nonpartisan Court Plan. Members of the public do not speak or otherwise participate in the interview process. Notice of vacancies and information about the interviews are posted at www.courts.mo.gov.

Above: Judge Carolyn Whittington set to retire from the St. Louis County 21st Circuit Bench

The Institute’s LEAD Program has been successful over the years because it has encouraged UMSL students to engage in public sector leadership through community service, examined different leadership styles and strategies, and provided opportunities to interact with successful women leaders.

During Fall 2017, our ten LEAD participants had the opportunity to engage in all of these areas by meeting on a weekly basis and addressing a variety of leadership topics. Our two LEAD Apprentices this year were 2015 LEAD alumna, Mary Chickos, and 2016 LEAD alumna, Crystal Guthrie. The Institute was grateful for their assistance in facilitating activities and coordinating professional introductions for each of our presenters.

The Institute was fortunate enough to host incredible women leaders who presented valuable information within their areas of expertise. Wendy Werner, Founder of Werner Associates, is a friend of the Institute and has broad experience in career coaching and management. She facilitated a fun and informative activity that assisted LEAD participants in assessing their personal leadership styles while offering techniques on excelling as a woman leader within all disciplines. The Institute was
thrilled to host another friend of the Institute, Judge Angela Turner Quigless of the Missouri Court of Appeals (eastern District). Judge Quigless shared her own pathway to success peppered with welcome doses of humor and inspiration. Her example of dedication and perseverance instilled confidence in our LEAD participants which will propel them to achieve great heights within their respective fields.

The Institute is always fortunate to have the input of Career Services’ Associate and Assistant Directors, Emily Rapko McEneny and Rachael Boehlow, respectively, to offer practical advice on salary negotiation and resume/cover letter strategies. Another element of the LEAD Program is to motivate women to run for public office. Senator Jill Schupp (District 24) met that challenge and offered advice, strategies, and encouragement to the future women leaders of LEAD. We are grateful to her for her time and talent!

This year, our LEAD participants selected FamilyForward (formerly, Family Resource Center) in St. Louis as their Community Service Project. FamilyForward offers children hope by providing therapeutic and educational services that support biological, foster, and adoptive families in the St. Louis area. FamilyForward provided our LEAD participants with a valuable opportunity to organize toy donations for their Holiday Store. The project was truly a “group effort,” both enjoyable and rewarding, and we were assured our efforts would benefit numerous families in the St. Louis area. Jessica Dederer, Chief Development Officer, was kind enough to spend time with our group, detailing the agency’s mission and generously taking questions. We are grateful to Jessica and the entire FamilyForward team for hosting our group, providing meaningful information to us about their agency, and nonprofit organizations in general.

The Institute was pleased to host so many incredible presenters for LEAD who contributed their unique guidance in preparing the participants to become leaders within their own fields. Graduation speakers included UMSL Provost, Kristin Sobolik, and Susan Block, attorney at Paule, Camazine & Blumenthal and former St. Louis County Circuit Judge. Both offered inspirational remarks, encouraging UMSL women to become confident and capable public leaders.

Please see the inspiring professional updates from our Leadership Academy and LEAD Program alumnae. We are proud to share their successes with you! Each alumna’s home University stated and year of graduation from the Leadership Academy or LEAD shown in parenthesis.

♦ Raven Alade
University of Central Missouri (’16)
Raven plans to graduate in May 2018 with her BS in Psychology at the University of Central Missouri (UCM). She was a McNair Summer Research Intern in 2017. Raven is also President of the Africana Studies Leadership Council at UCM and over the past two years, has also been an Academic Resource Coach, assisting at-risk students with academic challenges.

♦ Stephanie Bell Martin
University of Missouri– St. Louis (’03)
Stephanie was recently appointed as the Public Health Administrator for the Randolph County (IL) Board of Health Department. She had been working as their Interim Administrator since April 1st, 2017. Congratulations Stephanie!

♦ Brooke Reeves
Southeast Missouri State University (’15)
Brooke will begin her new position at the Department of Defense Finance & Accounting Services (Indianapolis, IN) in January 2018. She will also be starting her Master of Public Administration program online this year.

♦ Elise Buchheit
University of Missouri – Columbia (’09)
Elise recently accepted the position of Program Specialist for the City of Columbia (MO) Office of Cultural Affairs.

♦ Elisabeth Condon
Truman State University (’15)
Elisabeth will be graduating with her BA in Political Science from Truman State University in December 2017.

♦ Melony Crayton
University of Missouri– St. Louis (’16)
Melony is completing her Masters in Mental Health Counseling at UMSL and expects to graduate in Spring 2019. She is also working as an administrative assistant at Crown Center for Senior Living.
Alumni News

♦ Melissa Douglass
UMSL LEAD Program ('11)
Melissa is currently on the Leadership Committee for the Social Work Alumni Network at UMSL. This year, she opened a private tele-mental health counseling practice: Goal Driven Counseling, LLC. Her practice integrates technology and quality mental health care to assist teens and millennials in navigating education, career, and general life challenges via a video-conferencing interface.

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♦ Lauren Gepford
University of Missouri – Kansas City ('11)
Lauren moved to Washington, D.C. earlier this year and began working at NGP VAN, a technology provider to Democratic and progressive campaigns and organizations.

♦ Mackenzie Martin-Fisk
University of Central Missouri ('13)
Mackenzie is a member of Nebraska State Senator, John Kuehn’s (District 38) staff and is assisting with his committee work. She continues to be involved in nonprofits, including The Hope Venture that helps to provide better education, health, clothing, and shelter for children, orphans, and the needy.

♦ Angela O’Dell
UMSL LEAD Program ('14)
Angela completed her Master’s of Education at UMSL in May 2015. She was an English teacher in Taiwan from August 2015 through December 2016 and has since returned to UMSL as a student of the Department of Language & Cultural Studies.

♦ Kaylee Peile
University of Missouri – Kansas City ('17)
Kaylee completed her Master’s Degree in History in December 2017 from UMKC. She is now a Research & Information Coordinator for American Public Square, a nonprofit/nonpartisan, political organization that seeks to change the tone of public discourse. She will be launching a podcast for American Public Square in January 2018 that will discuss current issues that affect communities.

♦ Ericka Thomas
University of Missouri – St. Louis ('13)
Ericka began her new position of Development Coordinator for Optometry Cares– The AOA Foundation on November 2017. The AOA Foundation supports charitable efforts related to eye health and vision care. It is committed to expanding eye care awareness, research & access to eye health and vision care to everyone.

♦ Ebony Williams
UMSL LEAD Program ('12)
Ebony was promoted to Program Director at Lydia’s House. Lydia’s House offers confidential transitional housing for women and children who have experienced domestic violence.

♦ Missie Wolfe
Truman State University ('99)
Missie is currently the Research Psychologist Team Leader for the Center for Army Leadership at Fort Leavenworth, KS. Recently, she helped to design new online training modules to help soldiers identify toxic phenomena that negatively impacts, their performance, and their units. These modules help to position the Army as an industry leader for innovative action in this area of study.

For more fellows’ updates, visit: www.umsl.edu/sueshear

Need to update your contact information? Please email: lvoss@umsl.edu

Appointments

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

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 August 2017.

State of Missouri

Shannon County Public Administrator
Teresa Acord

Missouri Juvenile Justice Advisory Group
Jody Austin

Child Abuse & Neglect Review Board
Beth Banker
Mary Bozarth
Elaine Buschjost
Misty Dobynes

Donna Erickson
Joyce Estes
Susan Fluegel
Courtney Kovachevich
Donna Jo Neely
Allie Chang Ray
Danielle Smith
Joy Sweigart
Jeannie Thies
Kristen Tuohy
Jennifer Vernon Schoonover
Cynthia Vessel

University of Missouri Board of Curators
Julia Brncic
Courtney Lauer

(continued on page 7)
State of Missouri

St. Louis County Board of Elections
Sharon Buchanan-McClure

Circuit Court Judge for the 22nd Judicial Circuit
Theresa Counts Burke

Missouri Health Facilities Review Committee
Cindy Circo

Missouri State University Board of Governors
Amy Counts

Christian County Auditor
Amy Dent

State Board of Education
Jennifer Edwards
Melissa Gelner
Claudia Oñate Greim

Homeland Security Advisory Council
Cindy Erickson

Gubernatorial Board of Inquiry in the case of Marcellus Williams
Judge Carol Jackson

Missouri Health Facilities Review Committee
Kathy Flemming

Missouri State Foster Care and Adoption Board
Jennifer Foster

Circuit Court Judge, 22nd Judicial Circuit
Katherine “Katie” M. Fowler

Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council
Elizabeth Galt

Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority
Tonya Grimm

Coordinating Board for Early Childhood
Carol Hallquist

Governor’s Council on Disability
Katie Jones

Missouri State Board of Nursing
Bonny Kehm
Terri Stone

Public School Retirement System of Missouri, Board of Trustees
Beth Knes

St. Louis City Board of Elections
Gerre Kraemer

Circuit Judge, 5th Judicial Court
Melissa Lawyer

Children’s Trust Fund Board
Amy Layman
Cherisse Thibaut

Missouri Workforce Development Board
Kathy Lambert

Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission
Sheryl Maxwell

Missouri Women’s Council
Betsy Miller

State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts
Dr. Katherine Mathews

Circuit Court Judge, 16th Judicial Circuit
Jalilah Otto

State Lottery Commission
Robin Simpson

Clean Water Commission
Pat Thomas

Conservation Commission
Nicole Wood

St. Louis County

Mid-East Area Agency on Aging
Merline Anderson
Julie Berkowitz
Deborah Emmelkamp

City of St. Louis

Director of Human Services
Irene Agustin

City Register
Dionne Flowers

City of St. Louis Supply Commissioner
Pamela Kuehling

Director of the St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment
Dr. Alice Prince

Pipeline to Public & Local Office

A workshop to equip candidates and their supporters for success

November 7 & 8, 2018
Woods Hall, Room 101
University of Missouri–St. Louis
6:00–9:00 p.m. Cost: $100.00 ($125 after Oct 19)

For more information or to register, call (314) 514-4227 or visit us online at www.umsl.edu/SueShear

Sponsored by the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life

Gourmet to Go

The Institute would like to thank Gourmet to Go for their generous donation of box lunches to our LEAD Community Service Project at FamilyForward, St. Louis.
Yes, I want to support the Institute's mission of helping women participate fully in public policy decision making arenas.

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Contributions are tax-deductible. Thank You.

Upcoming Events and Important Dates:

Charter City/County Elections
March 6, 2018

General Municipal Election
April 3, 2018

21st Century Leadership Academy Dinner
Thursday
May 24, 2018

Pipeline to Public & Local Office
November 7 & 8, 2018
UMSL Alumni Room,
Woods Hall 101

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