

## Campus discussion focuses on closure of Ward E. Barnes Library

**KARLYNE KILLEBREW**  
STAFF WRITER

On November 6, a town hall meeting was held in the Museum Room of the Provincial House at 4 p.m. to discuss the closing of the Ward E. Barnes Library on South Campus.

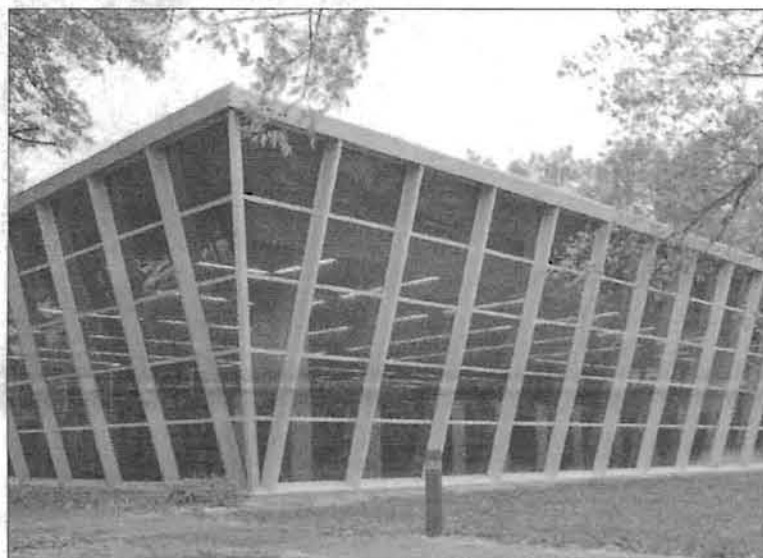
Cameron Roark, sophomore, criminology and criminal justice, vice chair of the Student Government Association, worked with the University of Missouri-St. Louis chapter of Young Activist United to bring together this event and allow the student body the opportunity to have their questions answered.

Chris Dames, dean of libraries, began with a condensed explanation of why the library must be closed.

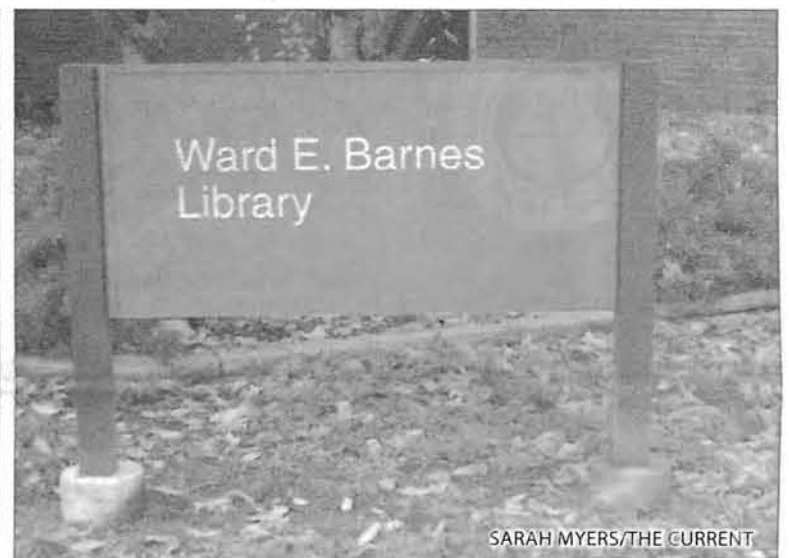
"This basically has become an issue of budget cuts...in the library that has been about \$100,000 a year for the last five years," Dames said. "The total amount is \$493,400. To pay for those cuts we have eliminated 10 positions. I am anticipating another 5 years of cuts of about \$100,000 per year and I must reorganize the libraries to still provide good service with fewer employees."

Dames went on to describe how the library system's development contributed to the plan: "Barnes Library usage never got over 45,000 [gate count], then we put in a computer lab and it jumped to 100,000. Then we put the journals online causing a significant drop... we are going, more and more, online. A physical library isn't as important as it used to be."

Upon closure, the physical books in the Barnes Library will be divided and relocated to either the Thomas Jefferson Library on North Campus or to an off-site storage area where they will still be retrievable



The Ward E. Barnes Library is set to close in May of 2014



SARAH MYERS/THE CURRENT

upon special request. Although these changes won't go into effect until the end of the spring 2014 semester, some students still fear that they're greatly inconvenienced. For many students, the biggest issue is the loss of the computer lab and printing stations on South Campus. Although the meeting was by no means packed, the students who were in attendance unanimously questioned what the plan was for providing them with a suitable alternative resource.

The faculty response was to remind students that UMSL is all one university collectively, and that the governmental bodies of the university are working hard to meet the students' needs while conquering the surmounting "fiscal issues."

"The campus has a \$300 million deferred maintenance problem...

they are looking for ways to save money on buildings we no longer use. From the perspective of the campus, in other areas, it's a great way to consolidate the use of space," Dr. James Krueger, Vice Chancellor of Managerial and Technological Services, said.

"We are looking at how many computers do we need, laptops you can check out, space for you to sit, printers for you to connect to...right now ITS and TLC are looking at how to make sure that there are enough computers in the right places to meet all the students' needs...the library won't close until May... We have time to hear from all of you...we want to see what the demand is...one of the things we have right here is an opportunity to say what are your needs," Glen Cope, PhD, provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs, said,

adding that the meeting served as an opportunity for students to state their needs.

Courtney Hayes, senior, political science, sergeant at arms for the SGA and treasurer for Young Activists United, addressed the other key issue: a student voice in the decision-making process.

"We were not asked for our input when the decision was made and we had to organize this town hall ourselves to get answers," Hayes said. "We want there to be an institutionalized process where we will be asked for our opinions and we will be able to share and it can actually have a difference. So far, that hasn't happened yet."

Vicki Sauter, PhD, Chair of the Library Committee, contested that, "...at the same point that faculty had input to this, we had students

sitting on the committee who had input to this...it's not that we didn't tell you when we knew...the fact of the matter is there was student input [at] exactly the same time and forum as there was faculty input."

A brief discussion ensued concerning campus involvement and the present statutes concerning student involvement in the decision making process. When asked what the alternative solutions concerning computer lab access were, there was no concrete course of action. There was a plan mentioned earlier to both the SGA body and in a press release to utilize the Barnes space for the College of Education. According to Cope, those plans, which include trying to figure out ways to ensure more space for computers and printers, are not final.

The Ward E. Barnes library is set to close on May 17, 2014.

INSIDE



'UMSL at 50' pg 3



Diwali Celebration pg 4



Shanghai Ballet pg 5



UMSL Sports pg 6

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**CONTACT US**

388 MSC, 1 University Blvd  
 St. Louis, MO 63121-4400

Newsroom  
 314-516-5174  
 thecurrenttips@umsl.edu

Business/Advertising  
 314-516-5316  
 thecurrentads@umsl.edu

Fax  
 314-516-6811

Editor-in-Chief  
 thecurrenteic@umsl.edu

Internships and Volunteer Positions  
 thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu

Letters to the Editor  
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**Jubilee Flashback** by Albert Nall

The Current has been a part of UMSL since 1966. In honor of the campus' 50th anniversary, we are reprinting articles from years past. These photos originally ran on November 11, 2002 and September 23, 2002. For more Jubilee Flashback, visit [thecurrent-online.com](http://thecurrent-online.com).

**Chancellor receives kudos**



In Sept. an open house was held in honor of Chancellor Blanche M. Touhill Wednesday. Touhill announced her retirement, effective Dec. 31. Friends, faculty, staff and students gathered to pay tribute to Touhill. Touhill greeted well-wishers at the door where they could sign a guest book and make their way to the free buffet and bar.



Chancellor Blanche Touhill gives her last State of the University address Wednesday, September 18. Touhill outlined several new personnel changes, announced several department accreditations and updated the progress of the new Performing Arts Center. She also spoke about the budget woes that are affecting the University of Missouri System. "I remember quite clearly stepping onto this stage for the first time as your chancellor to share my thoughts about the challenges which faced public higher education; that was 1991," Touhill said. "State resources were tight. . . Whoever said that "the more things change, the more they stay the same" must have been from Missouri."

A photo of Blanche Touhill, PhD, taken by photographer Mike Sherwin, appeared in the November 11, 2002 issue of The Current.

Touhill holds a bachelor's degree in history, a master's degree in geography, and a doctoral degree in geography and modern history, all of which were earned at Saint Louis University. Touhill, chancellor emeritus and professor emeritus of history and education, has published numerous books and articles and was the first woman to be named St. Louis "Citizen of the Year" in 1997. Touhill became a member of the UMSL faculty in 1965 as an assistant professor, and would later become the first woman to chair the University Senate years later.

Touhill was referenced many times in The Current over a forty-year period. The first such reference occurred on page one in the June 24, 1974 issue. Touhill was appointed as the new associate dean of faculties at UMSL, making her the first woman to serve as a campus administrator. Her duties included creating a faculty evaluation and development program and establishing new practices for improving academic programs and courses.

Touhill's name appeared in the Current again on December 5, 1985. As a search for a new chancellor continued, Current reporter Marilyn Probe discussed Touhill's new book, "The Emerging University: The University of Missouri-St. Louis, 1963-1983" on page 10. Touhill shared that Chancellor Arnold Grobman had asked her to write the book, and she combed through piles of "weighty documents" as part of her research. Though by that time, Touhill was the Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and had a number of accomplishments to her name...

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**THE UNDERCURRENT** By Siyun Zhang

**WHY DID YOU CHOOSE UMSL?**



**LIJING YANG,**  
 International Business,  
 Senior  
 "I transferred here because UMSL is the partner university of Study Abroad Program in my university."



**KAELIN SELLE**  
 Biology, Sophomore  
 "I like the sense of the community. It's a great college. It's close to home. I like the people here, they are very friendly. It's a good value and education overall."



**SHANE MEYER,**  
 Physics, PhD student  
 "It's cheap."

MON <b>60</b> <sub>HI</sub> <b>38</b> <sub>LOW</sub>	TUE <b>38</b> <sub>HI</sub> <b>20</b> <sub>LOW</sub>	WED <b>45</b> <sub>HI</sub> <b>24</b> <sub>LOW</sub>	THU <b>52</b> <sub>HI</sub> <b>33</b> <sub>LOW</sub>	FRI <b>52</b> <sub>HI</sub> <b>36</b> <sub>LOW</sub>	SAT <b>59</b> <sub>HI</sub> <b>48</b> <sub>LOW</sub>	SUN <b>64</b> <sub>HI</sub> <b>43</b> <sub>LOW</sub>
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# 'UMSL at 50' honors African American contributions

LATWUANNA TROUPE  
STAFF WRITER

The E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theatre of the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center was packed with people on November 7. "UMSL at 50: The African American Contributions" was organized to honor those African Americans who helped paved the way for equality among students. The event, which was hosted as part of UMSL's Jubilee celebration, began with a reception with free food and smooth jazz. As the time came for the program to begin, there was a call for celebration. Drums were played, summoning all the people to the theater to take their seats.

Deborah Burris, Director and Chief Diversity Officer of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, first thought of the idea for the event and consulted with the presidents of three of the leading African American organizations on campus: the African American Alumni Chapter, Associated Black Collegians, and Black Faculty and Staff Association. Together, they brought the idea to fruition and went on to host the event. The purpose of "UMSL at 50" is to celebrate the University of

Missouri—St. Louis providing 50 years of public service and higher education to the St. Louis region and beyond. African Americans contributed so much in different areas, including providing more diversity on campus.

"African Americans have played such a pivotal role, and this was a way to tell a portion of that story - by celebrating community leaders, staff, students and alumni who just happen to be African American, but who also happen to have made a very important contribution," Burris said.

The awards program was divided into five segments for each category of honor: faculty, student, staff, alumni, and community contributions.

Deanna Monroe, senior, media studies, was among the recipients of the student award. She hosts her own radio show at UMSL radio, is a part of the Strikeforce Dance team, an actress, activist, and Black Faculty and Staff Association scholarship recipient.

"I felt very humbled to have been nominated and then actually honored. I didn't expect it at all but it



Chancellor and Priscilla Dowden-White, Associate professor of history; Adeniyi "Niyi" Coker

gave me a feeling of much pride and I was happy that I had an opportunity to be a part of such a monumental occasion," Monroe said.

Bernard Diggs, Director of the Millennium Student Center Operations, received a Staff award. Diggs started in an entry-level position and continued his work and education at UMSL. He received his bachelor's degree in general studies in 1994 and his master's degree in adult higher education in 2007. He recently celebrated his fortieth year of

service here at UMSL.

"I feel very fortunate to have been with an organization for this length of time...being honored was very comforting and greatly appreciated," Diggs expressed.

Other honorees included Priscilla Dowden-White, Associate Professor of History, Candace "Candy" Agnew, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor, Alumni Anath Boone, BA-History, 1980, and Rita Days, Former State Senator, Director of Board of Elections.

The program also included performances by the ABC Steppers and Brian Owens and Trio, a short but moving play presentation titled "The Spirit to Rebuild," which portrayed the African American struggle at UMSL in its early years, and a special presentation dedicated to civil rights activist Norman Seay.

"There will be an UMSL [at] 100 and as [for] the students, I'm passing the torch on right now," Burris said.

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# ISA hosts Diwali celebration

HEATHER WELBORN  
FEATURES EDITOR

The Indian Student Association hosted a well-attended Diwali dinner on November 9 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is the most important festival in Hindu culture. Students dined on traditional Indian dishes as they learned more about the history of the holiday.

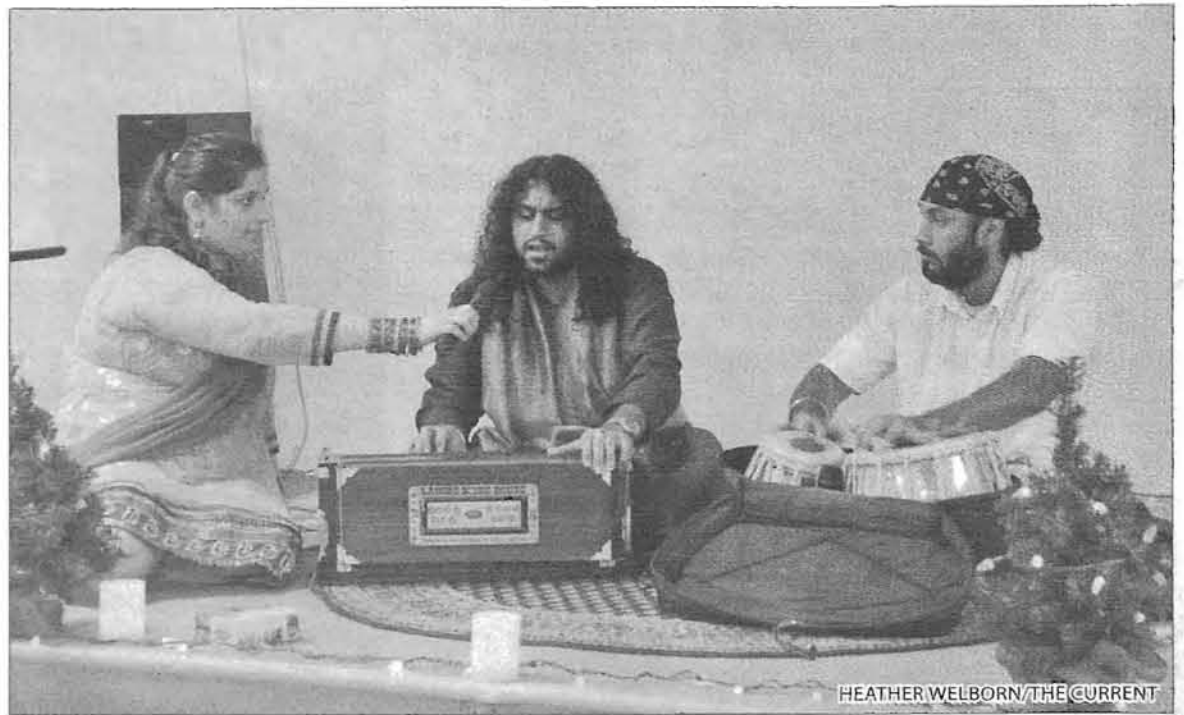
Each table was filled with guests snacking on a traditional Indian dish of rice puffs, nuts, and spicy aromatics. Flameless candles and multicolored lights lined the tables and stage where ISA members shared the history and practices associated with Diwali. A small altar was erected near the stage, bearing candles, flowers, and an image of a many-armed Hindu goddess. A brief lecture was presented, covering the significance of the event in eastern culture.

Diwali is a five-day celebration officially observed in numerous eastern countries, from India to Fiji. The festival follows the lunar Hindu calendar, and takes place at

different times each year, between mid-October and November. Numerous eastern religions celebrate Diwali, including Jains, Sikhs and Buddhists. Each religion attaches its own spiritual narrative to the festival, and celebrates the story behind the observance.

In Hindu cultures, Diwali marks the return of Rama, the seventh avatar of the God Vishnu, from fourteen years of exile. To welcome his return, clay lamps are lit to guide his path. For Jains, Diwali is when Lord Mahavira attained nirvana in 527 BC. In Sikh culture, Diwali celebrates the release from prison of the sixth guru, Hargobind, and fifty-two other princes with him in 1619.

The informative speech was followed by an in-depth look at traditional Hindu dance. Dance is regarded as the song of the body, and is used as an expression of personal spiritual experience. Yoga is an integral part of eastern dancing, and adds a holistic benefit to dancing with its focus on isolated movements, visualization,



(From left to right) Sonam Puji, Varun Bhan, and Daman Singh.

and intentional breathing. Much emphasis is placed on movement of the neck, eyes and hands, with bare feet stomping in a specific fashion to emit a certain slap sound.

Bollywood dancing was discussed, from its use in film industry to its rising popularity in western society. Many traditional dances call for elaborate costume in an array of patterns and bright colors. Belly-dancing, with its emphasis on stomach and hip motions, proves both challenging and useful to learn. Childbirth classes utilize physical therapies derived from belly-dancing, as

it strengthens and loosens the lower body and eases the birthing process. Dancers wear a coin sash around their hips to draw in focus, as well as colorful sashes and finger cymbals.

A Puja, or formal welcoming ceremony, followed the speakers. Club members sang traditional hymns in prayer over the event, expertly playing a harmonium and tabla, which respectively resembled an accordion and bongos. Guests were invited to lift the lit clay lamp on the altar during the last hymn and circle it counter-clockwise in prayer to the goddess believed to live within the flame.

After the music, dinner was served on long tables in an adjacent room. Guests lined up to sample traditionally prepared vegetarian dishes of spiced chickpeas, curried mixed vegetables and fresh pita bread. Dessert was also offered, including gulab jamun, a spongy milk ball soaked in syrup, ras malai, a sweet cheese and cream soup, and kheer, a rice pudding.

Sand art was offered in the adjacent room, as well. Attendees competed to create the best artistic work with glue and multicolored sand on wide sheets of paper.

## Experts discuss water management strategies, climate change

ALBERT NALL  
STAFF WRITER

"Facing the Unthinkable: Water Management Strategies" took place at the J.C. Penney Conference Center on November 7 from 6 to 9 p.m. The conference was part of the Helen & Will Carpenter Series on Contemporary Issues in American Society for the fall of 2013. The annual lecture is hosted by the College of Arts and Sciences. This year's event, which attracted around one hundred attendees, centered around the topic of economic water use and the impact of global warming on the environment.

Ronald Yasbin, PhD, dean and professor of biology for the College of Arts and Sciences, introduced keynote speaker Pat Mulroy. As general manager of the Southern Nevada Water Authority, Mulroy oversees operations of the SNWA and the Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD). She is also the first woman president of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies and serves on the Board of Directors of the National Water Resources Association and the Board of Trustees of the Water Research Foundation.

"Pat Mulroy raises provocative issues when it comes to water

management, but that is because she is full of insight in the way she sees and links the availability of water to climate change," Yasbin said.

Mulroy spoke at length about the many challenges brought on by technological and infrastructural challenges in water management and the impact such changes have had on water supply issues in the United States. According to Mulroy, water shortages are not only a problem in the United States, but are also an international concern, especially with neighboring nations that have water supply pacts with the US, such as Mexico.

"The issues are not only about technological advances in water management, nor is it just about certain uses of water supplies as much as it is about finding common solutions to the challenges faced in water conservation for cities," Mulroy said.

The conference was moderated by Patti Wright, PhD, associate professor of anthropology, who introduced the evening's panelists, whose discussion followed Mulroy's. David A. Wilson, Senior Manager of Environment

and Community Planning at the East-West Gateway Council of Government, Russell Errett, Water Manager of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, St. Louis District, and Tim Ganz, Environmental Manager of the Missouri American Water Company shared their views on the night's hot topic.

"The real source of water is not so much the kitchen sink; it is from the infrastructure. Clean, safe water, as well as its treatment, is important to public health and safety," Ganz said. "Citizens have benefited over a 40 year timeframe due to advances in filtration systems. However, many of our water infrastructure systems are from 50 to 100 years old, and this is a problem."

"Our goal is for our children, grandchildren, and our predecessors to enjoy a better quality of life with better water management. The key is the sustainability of water resources and how we manage it with the challenge of increased populations," Wilson said.

Wright turned the floor over to audience members, with Mulroy stepping in from time to time to respond to questions ranging in



Pat Mulroy was the keynote speaker at Thursday's event.

subject from irrigation and water issues in St. Louis to the effects that natural disasters have on water supplies, as well as infrastructure and reservoir levels. Mulroy stated that the one group that is the most committed to conservation is the business community.

"The business community is ledger driven, and when water costs are too high, they are

accountable to bringing costs down," Mulroy said.

According to Mulroy, it is important to bring the concept of conservation into the educational system.

"You need to start with the young, and it entails rather slight things such as teenagers turning the water off when they are done with the shower," Mulroy said.

## TOUHILL REVIEW



Dancers entertain wedding guests at Zhu's family palace in autumn

PHOTO COURTESY OF DANCE ST. LOUIS AND SHANGHAI BALLET

## East meets West in Shanghai Ballet's romantic classic, 'Butterfly Lovers'

CATE MARQUIS  
A&E EDITOR

If "The Nutcracker" and "Swan Lake" make you sigh, then Shanghai Ballet's classically beautiful "The Butterfly Lovers" will spark the same delight. Sometimes called the Chinese "Romeo and Juliet," this folk tale-inspired story has all the romance and heartbreak of ill-fated love, told through graceful classical ballet danced to stirring romantic Chinese-inflected music.

Dance presenter Dance St. Louis brought the Shanghai Ballet company to the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center for three performances on November 8 and 9 in the grand Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. Shanghai is a Chinese city that historically had a strong European influence, so it is no surprise that a dance company based there would show mastery of that exacting classical European dance form called ballet yet blend it gracefully with Chinese culture.

Visually lush, "The Butterfly Lovers" offered a delightful example of that cultural blending. Choreographed by Shanghai Ballet founder Xin Lili, this romantic ballet has four acts that run through the seasons. Each act opens with a dance by the company in lovely costumes shaped like butterfly wings in colors of the season, with gorgeous seasonal scenery framing the stage. The dancing was mostly classic ballet, but sprinkled throughout were elements of Chinese traditional dance. The music was Western-based as well, but flavored with Chinese singing and instruments.

The story begins in spring, with dancers dressed as colorful butterflies frolicking in front of a lovely green woodland view. Zhu Yingtai (Fan Xiaofeng), a girl disguised as a boy, studies eagerly with her classmates. When the rich bully in class, Ma Wencai (Wu Bin) harasses their elderly teacher (Zhong Min) after

class, Zhu comes to the teacher's defense. When Ma turns his fury on her, another classmate, Liang Shanbo (Wu Husheng), comes to Zhu's rescue. In a lovely dream sequence that follows, with dancers (Zhou Haibo and Zhang Yao) behind a gauzy screen, Zhu falls in love with Liang.

In the summer, Zhu is called back home and Liang accompanies his friend on the journey, still unaware that she is a girl. Along the way, butterflies and woodland animals dance in a playful scene reminiscent of the dream sequence of "The Nutcracker." Two pairs of animals, colorful, comic magpies (Li Chenchen and Zhang Yao) and elegant Mandarin ducks (Chen Yan and Zhou Haibo), set a tone of romantic love. Zhu dons a red veil, imitating a Chinese bride, and then gives the veil to Liang as they part. Suddenly realizing Zhu is a woman, he falls in love with her too.

After intermission, the curtain rises on a lavish wedding at Zhu's father's palace. The stage is filled with guests in lavish red and gold costumes, as trees ablaze with autumn color frame the scene. Zhu's father (Wu Jie) and Ma's father (Zhong Min) decide their children should marry. Ma

is delighted but Zhu does not want to marry the wealthy bully. She pleads with her father but he orders her to marry him anyway.

Later, Liang arrives to ask for Zhu's hand in marriage and when she finds him, they profess their love in a moving pas de deux. The tender scene ends when an angry Ma arrives with his army of servants, followed by Zhu's father, who does not think Liang is good enough for his daughter. In a dramatic martial dance, Liang is killed.

The next act opens with snowy evergreens framing a wintery stage. A colorful, grand wedding procession for Zhu and Ma marches past the snowy grave where Liang is buried. Later, Zhu returns to the grave alone, casts off her red bridal robe and throws herself off a cliff nearby. In the next scene, the two lovers are reborn as butterflies and join in dancing with the other butterflies and woodland creatures, who have returned to fill the stage with color as the shape of a giant butterfly rises on the backdrop.

"The Butterfly Lovers" was a delightful romantic performance that audience greeted with enthusiastic applause.



Zhu (Fan Xiaofeng) and Liang (Wu Husheng) dance a pas de deux

PHOTO COURTESY OF DANCE ST. LOUIS AND SHANGHAI BALLET

## GALLERY VISIO



Minimum Wage by Terri Berg

HEATHER WELBORN/THE CURRENT

## Gallery Visio hosts opening of senior art expo, 'Rehearsal'

HEATHER WELBORN  
FEATURES EDITOR

Gallery Visio hosted the opening of "Rehearsal," this year's Senior Expo art exhibit, on November 7. Seniors set to graduate from the University of Missouri-St. Louis Fine Arts program in 2014 were given an opportunity to submit selected works for the gallery showcase. The senior art exhibit is in its second year, and offers fine arts students a chance to practice professionally presenting and promoting their works to a broad audience. Attendees get a preview of the diverse creative efforts of emerging student artists aiming to make an impact in the art world. The exhibit runs through January 8, 2014.

The event had a celebratory mood, with many artists seeing their relatives and friends in attendance to support the showcase. The exhibit was composed of diverse pieces, both in composition and execution. Wire sculptures adorned corners of the gallery, wedged between canvases heavily textured or shiny with thick clear lacquer. The size of the art varied as well, from paper-sized drawings to canvases larger than the artist who submitted it.

David Lee, senior, studio art, served as the event's DJ. Lee beamed as he received compliments on an oil portrait of his daughter, titled "Lolita E Lopez-Lee." The work used large brushstrokes to express the glee and youth of his child's smiling face. Adjacent to Lee's piece was the mixed media "Breakout," a massive multicolored canvas by Zoe Nicholson, senior, studio art, studded with clear inch-sized squares. One of the larger pieces, "Breakout" is a hypnotic experience in acrylic pigment overlap and selective splatter. In some spots, the color protruded three-dimensionally towards the artist, with the slide-like squares precariously clinging to the color by its corners.

Emily Gogel, senior, studio art,

offered an entire wall of mixed media art. Gogel incorporated family portraits and personal scraps of media into her pieces. The inclusion of gift-wrapping and journal pages gave her work a sentimental and archival quality.

On the other side of Gogel's work were two psychedelically painted canvases by Sage Kuhlman, senior, studio art. While one is relatively straightforward in color and form, the second canvas interprets the same scene - a human figure meditating amongst bamboo - with a dream-like wash of expertly-smudged multicolor. The double treatment of the subject suggests the experience of meditation as both liberating and somewhat distorting, visibly different from the former straightforward way of being.

Adjacent to Kuhlman's pieces was a work by Terri Berg, senior, studio art, "Minimum Wage," the largest piece in the exhibit. A petite woman, Berg's canvas towers over her as she explained it to inquiring attendees. Her canvas depicts two men during a fast-food shift, using warm yellow and cool gray almost exclusively to accurately invoke restaurant workspace. Berg notes that the subjects, her coworkers at Dairy Queen, were pleased with the result.

Berg uses the listed price of her piece to examine the value of art in society. While the majority of students marked their pieces not for sale, Berg priced hers at \$957.76. She says she calculated the price from the supplies invested in the art, as well as what it would be worth if artists were paid minimum wage for the total hours they invest in their pieces.

Gallery Visio is a student-run art gallery located near the Nosh on the first floor of the Millennium Student Center. For more information on the gallery, visit their website at [www.umsl.edu/~galvisio](http://www.umsl.edu/~galvisio).

# Soccer ends, basketball begins at UMSL

JOHN "SAMMY" LUDEMAN  
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's volleyball team defeated the St. Joseph Pumas 3-1 on November 2 in the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center. Through set scores of 20-25, 25-12, 25-23, and 26-24, the UMSL Tritons cruised to their 14th overall win of the season. Chelsea Burkle, senior, nursing, led the lady Tritons with 20 kills. Emily Bragaw, junior, elementary education, added 17 digs and Lindsay Meyer, sophomore, business, contributed with 33 assists.

UMSL women's basketball defeated the Saint Louis University Billikens 59-52 on November 2 at the Chaifetz arena. The exhibition match marked the first game of the Tritons' basketball season, with the Tritons taking down the Division I Billikens. UMSL took

the offensive early, posting a lead of 32 to 24 at the half, and was able to hold off a 14-6 Billiken run in the second half to record an impressive victory. Alyssa Like, senior, biology, led the Triton efforts with 11 points and 12 rebounds. Devonna Smith, senior, social work and criminal justice, added another 11 points and nine rebounds.

UMSL men's basketball lost to the SIU Carbondale Salukis 66-71 on November 2 in Carbondale, Illinois. The Tritons had little preparation being scheduled the day prior, replacing a Harris-Stowe team that did not meet certifications to play. The Salukis took the lead early, ending the half with a 30-22 lead as the Tritons struggled with their shooting. With five minutes to go, the Tritons worked their way back to within

three points trimming the Saluki lead to 60-57, before SIU scored four straight free throws putting

## "THE EXHIBITION MATCH MARKED THE FIRST GAME OF THE TRITONS' BASKETBALL SEASON..."

the game out of reach. Femi John, senior, business administration, led the Tritons with 22 points, 11 rebounds, and three assists. Acreon Smith, junior, business, and Michael Weber, senior, liberal studies, both contributed with 14 and 12 points, respectively.

UMSL women's volleyball fell to the Indianapolis Greyhounds 2-3 on November 3 in the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center. The Tritons started off on a positive note by winning the first two sets, but could not post any more set wins. The Greyhounds won through set scores of 23-25, 22-25, 25-23, 25-14, 15-10. Chelsea Burkle, senior, nursing, led the Tritons with 22 kills. Emily Bragaw, junior, elementary education, contributed 24 digs and Lindsay Meyer, sophomore, business, added 26 assists.

UMSL men's soccer lost to the Rockhurst Hawks 0-3 at the GLVC quarterfinals in Kansas City, Missouri. The loss marks the final game of the Triton men's soccer season. The Hawks got to work quickly scoring a goal in the first half, and added two additional goals in the second

half to put the game away. Jon Huelsman, sophomore, nursing, led the Tritons with four shots and goalkeeper Nick Lenkman, junior, international business, contributed three saves.

UMSL men's basketball fell to the Lake Superior State Lakers 72-76 on November 9 in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. The Tritons, in their first game of the regular season, cut the lead to 74-72 with less than a minute in regulation, but were put away by two Laker free-throws with half a second left on the clock. Darian Cartharn, senior, communications, and Tylor Wimbish, junior, liberal arts, both had 17 point efforts for the Tritons, with Aareon Smith, junior, business, adding 16 points.

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POINT

COUNTERPOINT

## IS PARKING ON CAMPUS SATISFACTORY?

**POINT: It's not hard to park on campus.**

At the University of Missouri-St. Louis, a parking permit is like the golden ticket. The parking decals, which come in different colors so that the university can differentiate student vehicles from those belonging to faculty and staff members, allow you to park just about anywhere.

If you're an early riser with a valid parking permit, that pretty much gives you first dibs on the best spots around campus. The ability to get to campus early comes in handy during the beginning of the semester, when students come out in full force.

However, even if you're not one of those people who can leave their house at 6 a.m., you won't be stuck parking half a mile away just to get to a class in Clark Hall. There are over 25 parking lots on campus. If a student is taking classes in Benton Hall, then parking in the lot outside of Benton and Stadler or the garage nearest the library would work best for them, since the latter is centrally located, making it easy to get to a variety of campus hot spots quickly and efficiently.

**COUNTER: Parking at UMSL is a pain.**

Parking on campus has been a hot topic on UMSL's campus for quite some time now. One can browse through issues of The Current from the 1970s and come across editorials bemoaning the lack of parking spaces that are just as relevant then as they are now. So, what's up with parking on campus?

Though a parking permit is a great thing to have, it does not mean that the world of parking at UMSL is always roses and sunshine. One of the biggest complaints is that there are never any available parking spaces near the entrances. Having a parking pass on your car does not mean that you are guaranteed a spot when you arrive to campus - but why not? Students have to pay for parking, so why can't we be assured that we'll be able to park our cars within the vicinity of the campus we attend? At this point, I'd settle for not having to bring a water bottle and towel just to rehydrate myself and mop the sweat from my body following my daily treks from my car to the classroom and back again.

It's not an issue of punctuality. There have been many times when I've arrived on campus with

UMSL provides different parking lots all around campus for this very reason. Students, staff, and faculty members have the option of choosing which lot to park in so that they can get to class as quickly as possible.

If drivers leave early enough to give themselves enough time to find the right lot and parking space, then finding a place to park isn't much of a hassle at all. The trick is to arrive early. If you come to campus five minutes before your class is set to start, you're going to be late (unless you're planning on pulling your car right up onto the grassy quad and booking it to class from there).

Don't blame the university for problems that are out of their control. Over 16,000 students attend this university. Considering the amount of students, faculty, and staff members who need to come to campus every day, The Powers That Be have done a great job of utilizing the space that is available.

plenty of time to spare in order to get to class, and I've still had to park on the opposite side of campus and power-walk to the Millennium Student Center. Do I have to camp out over night just to make sure I can park in a lot for my class the next day?

When other schools come to visit, UMSL ropes off parking spaces for them to use on the student parking lots, which cuts the number of available spots in half. Why do those parking spots have to be on the student lot? In my opinion, if those in charge of such matters know that other schools come to visit often, why not build a new parking lot to hold their buses instead of taking parking spots from students that have paid their tuition to park in those lots?

With construction having just begun on a new building (and, in the process, taking away even more parking spaces from the campus community), it's safe to say that most of would be better off riding bikes to campus. There's nothing like the refreshing feel of freezing wind on your face as you pedal furiously across Natural Bridge in the winter, right?

## STAFF EDITORIAL

## From 'The Brown Box' to the Wii, gamers have it better than ever before

DANYEL POINDEXTER  
STAFF WRITER

It is safe to say that video games are far better than they've ever been. From the first steps of "Mario Brothers" to the zombie-infested "Resident Evil", we've reached a new era of spectacular gaming. We've stepped up from that gaming console 'The Brown Box' in 1967, to having the PS3, Wii, Xbox 360 and even more that provide spectacular GB and memory. Now people can even interact with their games through kinetic gaming (also produced with great graphics).

But we don't only have gaming consoles to thank for that; the great game designers of today deserve their fair share of credit. In my view, the games that are being produced today have been carefully created and have taken years to be completed. It goes without saying that none of today's video games would have come into being without the creation of electronic gaming in the first place. From that first start, game designers were able to overcome the mistakes that past game designers couldn't get past, and they grew as technology itself grew. They were able keep games entertaining for today's generation.

With that said, it's hard to believe that gaming first evolved from the artifacts of the Sumerian and Egyptian times. Simple little board games slowly crept up, eventually making their way into the digital era, where most games are played on computers and televisions. It is fascinating how

adults are able to interact through gaming. Now gamers are able to virtually interact with one another across states or countries through these virtual worlds. Those over thirty remember the times before gaming even hit the arcades or entered the digital world; now, we are all able to have connect through digital these digital worlds and have fun together.

When it was first discovered by fans that game designers were coming out with higher-quality graphics for games, the gaming world became a competition. Top game designers started going against other top designers and new-comers in the field started doing everything they could to get noticed. Games began resembling movies, capturing the fans' full attention.

During every minute of every day, designers are successfully thinking of new ways to transform gaming and it's clear that their dedication is paying off. Games need to keep up with this generation, for it is forever evolving and changing. People are learning and trying new things; technology is more futuristic than ever. In order for games to keep people entertained, they need to follow the fans, the technology, and the ways in which our world is constantly changing.

The best games are ones that people have only dreamed about, never imagining that they'd have the chance to experience it. Now with just a press of the start button on a game console or computer,



it's as if you're transforming your imagination into reality. Games today are also heavily decision-based, requiring the player to choose one way or another, with their decisions dictating how the entire game progresses. It so closely relates to reality because you get the opportunity to wonder what could have happened if you chose another path. Fortunately, if you're someone who's really irritated by that thought, you can always complete the game and start over from a different decision. The details present in many games have also become even more so more impressive. Just like in reality, as you progress through the game world you have to look for specific things. In games such as "The Last of Us" or "Silent Hill", small trinkets that might escape your eyes are spread throughout the game.

Personally, I'm slowly waiting for games to get to the enhanced stage of hologram gaming so that I can literally get into the game, but as I wait, I and so many more fans are content with the elite graphics of today.

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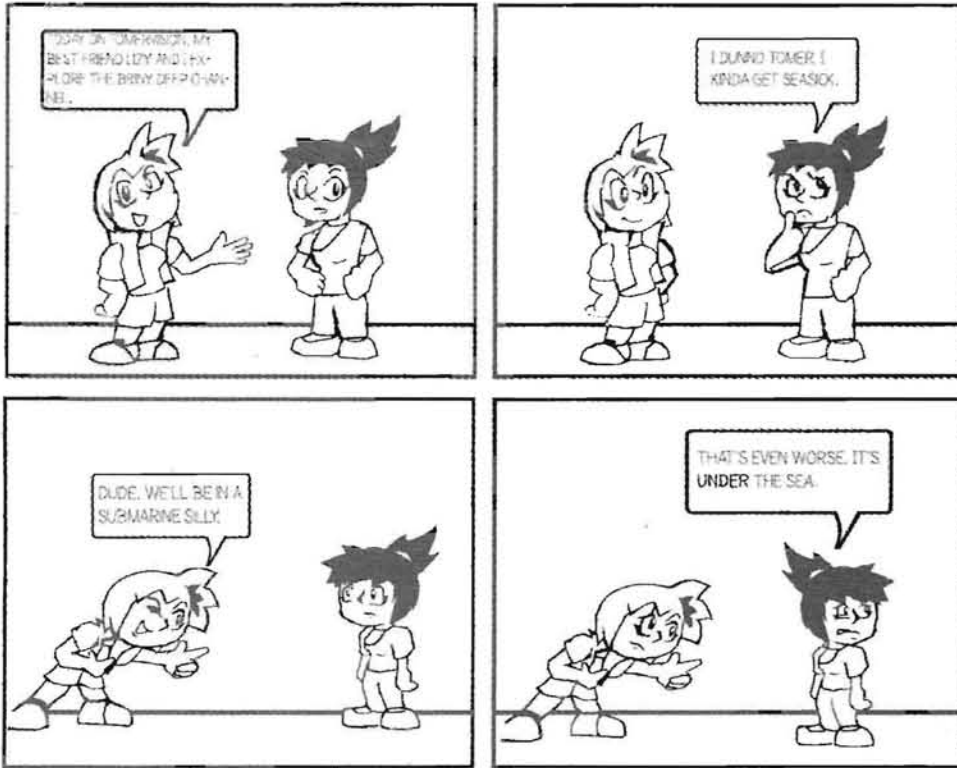
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# -NEWS@NOON-

## SOCIAL MEDIA: OWNING YOUR IDENTITY

Join The Current, the student-run campus news source, for free pizza and discussion at "Social Media: Owning Your Own Identity."

**Professor Perry Drake**, Professor of Social and Digital Media Marketing at UMSL, will introduce the topic and then lead a student-centered discussion.

"News at Noon" is a monthly forum for faculty and student discussions about current events, co-sponsored by The Current and the New York Times, with support from the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Office of Student Life at UMSL.

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