

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING 2012

MAROON, WHITE, AND YOU

OCTOBER IS A GREAT TIME OF YEAR, BUT ALSO CONSIDERED ONE OF THE BUSIEST TIMES OF THE YEAR FOR A STUDENT AFFAIRS PROFESSIONAL. FOR THE OFFICE OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT, OCTOBER IS THE HOME TO THE BIGGEST TRADITION AT MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY: HOMECOMING!

HOMECOMING IS THAT TIME OF YEAR THAT ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF FEEL CONNECTED BETWEEN EACH OTHER AS THEY ALL WORK TOGETHER TO SHOW OFF "BEAR PRIDE". THE 2012 HOMECOMING WAS NO DIFFERENT AS MANY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, RESIDENCE HALLS, AND FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE MEMBERS COMPETE AGAINST EACH OTHER IN VARIOUS COMPETITIONS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.

AS THE WEEK BEGINS, ALL INVOLVED ORGANIZATIONS COMPETE IN THE SUNDAY EVENTS OF DECORATE DOWNTOWN, WIDOW PAINTING AT THE PSU, ROCK -N-CHALK, AND THE BANNER COMPETITION. THIS COMBINATION OF EVENTS STARTS OFF A GREAT WEEK OF FUN EVENTS FOR ALL STUDENTS. AS THE WEEK PROGRESSED, STUDENTS CAME OUT AND SHOWED THEIR SUPPORT AS OVER 2500 PEOPLE ATTENDED ROCKSTAR MSU ON TUESDAY EVENING, AND THE PEP RALLY/ YELL LIFE HELL COMPETITION ON THURSDAY EVENING. ONE OF THE MOST ANTICIPATED EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK HAPPENED TO BE THE CARDBOARD CANOE RACES THAT OCCURRED ON FRIDAY. THE ENTIRE DECK OF THE SWIMMING POOL WITHIN THE FOSTER RECREATION CENTER WAS FILLED WITH SPECTATORS LOOKING TO SEE THE EXCITEMENT, AND WHETHER OR NOT PEOPLE COULD ACTUALLY MAKE CARDBOARD INTO CANOES. THIS WAS A NEW EVENT THIS YEAR AND MANY LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING IF IT WILL RETURN ON THE HOMECOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR NEXT YEAR!

THE WEEK CAME TO AN END WITH THE SATURDAY MORNING HOMECOMING PARADE. OVER 30 JR. HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL BANDS PERFORMED ALONG WITH MISSOURI STATE'S VERY OWN PRIDE BAND. MANY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS WORKED VERY HARD AND CREATED OUTSTANDING FLOATS FOR DISPLAY DURING THE PARADE DOWN JOHN Q. HAMMONS DR. THE PARADE LEAD ATTENDEES TO BEARFEST VILLAGE WHERE STUDENTS, FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND ALUMNI CAME TOGETHER BEFORE THE GAME TO SHOW OFF THEIR BEAR PRIDE. THE FOOTBALL GAME STARTED AT 1:00PM THAT AFTERNOON WITH GREAT ATTENDANCE FROM FANS. HOMECOMING KING AND QUEEN WERE ANNOUNCED DURING HALF-TIME. CONGRATULATIONS TO LEXI BECK AND GARRET MUELLER ON BECOMING THE 2012 KING AND QUEEN OF MISSOURI STATE.

HOMECOMING 2012 WAS AN AMAZING SUCCESS. A BIG THANK YOU GOES OUT TO TARA BENSON, ASST. DIRECTOR FOR PROGRAMMING WITH THE OFFICE OF STUDENT, WHITLEY DENSON, GRADUATE ASSISTANT FOR HOMECOMING AND AFTER HOURS WITH THE OFFICE OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT, AND BOTH HOMECOMING CHAIRS, MEGAN STONECIPHER, AND BALIE PHELAN. JOB WELL DONE EVERYONE!!

THE STUDENT AFFAIRS FOCUS

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VP PERSPECTIVE

Many of us have just returned from different professional conferences including, UMR, ACUI Region 11, and NASPA 4W, among others. As an attendee of NASPA 4W this year, many great sessions were presented on topics that are touching our lives and the lives of our students. Missouri State University was well represented as we were the second largest delegation at NASPA 4W this year, and it was truly exciting to see our graduate students interacting with professionals from around our region. During the conference, we were able to spend Election Day at Mt. Rushmore! I have to admit, that is one of the most patriotic ways to spend an election day. I am looking forward to what our graduate students will be accomplishing as they continue to build on their professional experiences, especially by including themselves in professional organizations.

DR. EARLE DOMAN
VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Staff Spotlight:

Tony Hein, Resident District Manager

Tony was born in Colorado and grew up there. He went to the University of Colorado and Metro State College of Denver where I graduated with a degree in finance. After graduation, Tony went to work for a restaurant company, the Old Spaghetti Factory as a kitchen manager, and spent 18 years with OSF. He traveled the country, living in 10 different states and ending up as a General Manager of their restaurant in St. Louis.

In 1996, Tony married Stephanie. She is an Alumna of MSU, and they have two beautiful daughters. As time progressed, Tony wanted to be able to spend more time with his family, so he started looking for a career that would allow that to happen which lead him to the position with Sodexo in 2001 as the Blair-Shannon Dining Center manager. During that time, he managed both dining centers and some retail operations and then became Director of Operations in 2007. When Chartwells took over the account in May of 2011, Tony was fortunate to become their Director of Operations until on October 5, 2012 I was promoted to the Resident District Manager.

CONGRATULATIONS Tony!! We look forward to wonderful things from you!



VIP TRANSFER DAYS

Friday, October 26th, was the first of many Transfer VIP Days, a campus visit event tailored specifically to our prospective transfer students. The day started off with an admissions presentation by our very own Transfer Coordinator, Dixie Williams, followed by lunch at the newly remodeled Garst Dining Center. Tour groups left from lunch with Transfer Ambassadors, finishing out the day at an Academic Fair in the PSU, where representatives from each college and financial aid were available to offer information and answer questions. The day was intimate enough so that students could mingle with each other and our staff could answer questions over lunch. Overall, this was a great event and our next VIP day is November 16th!

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FROM THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN: STUDENT AFFAIRS FROM THE EYES OF A GRADUATE ASSISTANT

It is that time of year where graduate students are constantly working on some type of project or paper, trying to stay on top of what we are doing within our graduate assistantships, and maybe/trying to have a social life with our cohort (and all that social life really means is study groups in the library till 2 a.m.). This semester has raised a lot of great questions, interesting insights to situations, but above all great friendships.

When looking at graduate programs, the cohort model was something that I ranked high on my list as a necessity for the program, but never once did I think that being in a cohort would end up providing me with 28 of the closest friends. Cohort 6 of the Student Affairs Higher Education program has become a strong foundation for each individual, and without these individuals I would probably not look forward to class as much as I do. Cohort 6 is an amazing group of individuals who support each other, encourage each other, and joke with each other, but most of all care for each other. My experience in this program would be completely different if there were different people in class with me. I enjoy and cherish the time our cohort spends together, because at the end of the day, we are the ones who will be attending regional and annual conferences in a few years saying we are excited to see our "family". I am extremely fortunate to have this amazing group of individuals as a support system, but most of all, I am extremely fortunate to call them my friends!