

The Student Affairs Focus

**Missouri State
University**

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2013**

**Volume 2013
Issue 2**

Happy Fall Everyone,

The fall semester is underway and there is certainly a lot of excitement in the air! The Division of Student Affairs has been very busy engaging students in meaningful experiences and inclusive environments that advance student development, learning and success. And, yes, we have a lot of new Bears on campus this fall!!

Thank you to all the Student Affairs staff members and students who have worked so hard in collaboration with our faculty colleagues to create an experience of learning for our students. Homecoming is right around the corner, students are advocating for a new BEAR fee, Stomp Out Hunger is the theme of the month, Blake Mycoskie will speak as part of our Veteran's Day Public Affairs Convocation... and, we have many, many more opportunities for engagement coming up this fall. The experience of being a BEAR is "beary" exciting!

I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming programs, services and events! Go Bears!

Dr. Dee Siscoe

Vice President for Student Affairs



Successful Enrollment for Fall 2013

Hopefully, most of you are aware that we saw big increases in the number of our new freshmen and transfers this year. If you hadn't heard, the freshman class was 202 students larger than last year (an 8.1% increase) and our new transfer class was 139 students larger (an 8/6% increase). Plus, this transfer class was the largest in MSU's history.

You might be thinking that you already knew all of that, so how about we dig a little deeper and learn a little more about these two groups.

Freshman Profile

Total number	2,693
Average high school	3.59
Average ACT	24.0 (the state average is 21.6)
Percentage in the top half of their class	85.2%
Percentage with college credit (AP, IB, dual credit)	56.2%
Of those with credit, average amount	12.8 hours
Number from out-of-state	319 (up 35.7% from FA12)
Number in Honors College	321 (up 9.6% from FA12)

Transfer Profile

Total number	1754
Average college GPA	3.02
Percentage that are 22 years old or older	37.6%
Percentage from southwest Missouri	50.0%

Finally, last year we brought in a record number of underrepresented students – 563, which was a 22% increase over FA11. This year, we surpassed that record by 50 (an 8.9% increase). The 613 total underrepresented students is also a 101% increase over FA08.

I'm very proud of the work that has been done by the Admissions team in bringing in this awesome group of students. However, this result doesn't happen just through the efforts of those in Admissions. We achieve this kind of success by the collective efforts of those in our division and the rest of the University. It's the hard work of the Financial Aid team in packaging award letters, the faculty that meet with our prospective students and their families when they visit campus, the grounds team and all they do to make campus look beautiful and so many more.

Congratulations to all of us.

Andy Wright, Assistant V.P./Director of Admissions



Mark your calendars for another BearFit Special Event!

Yoga by Candlelight is happening October 9th from 7:30-8:30 in studio A. Melt your stress away by relaxing every muscle in a room lit by tea lights. You don't want to miss out on this. Passes are sold at the Welcome Center of the FRC for \$2.

GloZumba is coming up and happening on November 12, from 7:30-8:30 in Studio B. This is a great way to get a work out and have fun while doing it. This session will be a \$2.00 fee and space is limited, so plan to get there a little early.

Show us your moves. Here's your reminder about two great opportunities to expand your dancing skills. Wellness sessions for **Latin Dance and Swing Dance are starting October 17th from 6:30-7:30p.m.**! 5-week sessions are only \$40 for members and \$50 for nonmembers. Head to the FRC to register by October 14th! Register through online services <http://www.missouristate.edu/recreation/login.htm>

American Red Cross CPR and First Aid Certification.

Register online or in person at the FRC. Registration deadlines are 2 days before each class. Limited seats are available. CPR/AED and First Aid are held in the Aquatics Classroom. CPR is \$55 and First Aid is \$40.

CPR/AED Session 2: October 9 from 1:30pm-5:00pm

First Aid Session 2: October 9 from 5:00pm-6:30pm

CPR/AED Session 3: November 16 from 9:00am-12:30pm

First Aid Session 3: November 16 from 12:30pm-2:00pm

This certification does not fulfill the requirement for MSU nursing students. Register through online services <http://www.missouristate.edu/recreation/login.htm>

SHARP Sessions will be held in the FRC again this year! Three sessions will be sponsored by the Missouri State University Department of Safety and Transportation, as well as, by Campus Recreation Wellness. The classes are free so register for one of the following sessions! All sessions are from 6:30-9p.m.

Session 2: October 21-22; Register by October 18

Session 3: November 18-19; Register by November 15

Register through online services <http://www.missouristate.edu/recreation/login.htm>

Personal Training is running a special! Sign up for 6 sessions of personal training and receive an hour massage for the price of a half hour massage! For more information visit our website: <http://www.missouristate.edu/recreation/Wellness/AssessmentsAndTraining.htm> (This link is hyperlinked- Drag your mouse over the flier, hold Ctrl and left click on the flier and it will take you directly to this site)

Massage Therapy is now offered at the Foster Recreation Center. Check our website for more information on times, prices, and how to sign up: <http://www.missouristate.edu/recreation/Wellness/Massages.htm>. (This link is hyperlinked- Drag your mouse over the flier, hold Ctrl and left click on the flier and it will take you directly to this site)

BearFIT Unlimited Passes will be sold for \$20 after Fall Break!! Looking to join a class, use this great offer to finish this semester strong while working out with our awesome BearFIT classes offered at the FRC!



Relationship Violence INTERVENTION Summit



OCTOBER 28, 2013 8AM-3PM

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY PLASTER STUDENT UNION

Did you know Greene County has the highest number of reported domestic assaults in the state of Missouri?

The Office of Citizenship and Service-Learning at Missouri State University and Jana's Campaign are partnering to bring together community leaders and experts to open a dialogue regarding the issues of relationship and sexual violence to identify services, struggles, and solution strategies to facilitate community-based problem-solving for this important issue.

Drs. Curt and Christie Brungardt of Jana's Campaign travel nationally to speak against domestic violence. Their mission is to share the story of their daughter, Jana Mackey, a KU law student whose life was cut short because of relationship violence and how they turned that tragedy into action. They will be introduced by MSU President Clifton Smart.



Curt & Christie Brungardt
Of
Jana's Campaign

PROFESSIONAL PANEL

Sims Law Firm | Springfield Police Department | Brentwood Christian Church |
Drury University | Springfield Public Schools | A Survivor

SERVICES AND STRUGGLES PANEL

Harmony House | The Victim Center | Children's Division | Hit No More | A Family Member

SPECIAL TOPICS PANEL

Special Topics Include: Abuse In Military | Same-Sex Relationship Abuse |
Abuse against People with Disabilities | Teen Dating Violence

Dynamics of Power & Control

Presented by Lauryl Wagoner

Gender Differences in Intimate Partner

Abuse
Presented by Paula Rector



There is no cost to attend. Breakfast will be provided.
Free Parking, Networking Lunch and CEU Options Available.
Presented by the Office of Citizenship and Service Learning
Register at <http://missouristate.edu/casl> 417-836-5774

Missouri State University provides reasonable accommodations with adequate notice. Please contact the Office for Institutional Equity and Compliance, Park Central Office Building, Room 111, 417-836-4252, at least three working days prior to the program date in order that adequate arrangements may be made.

Interested in attending The Association of Student Conduct Administrators Conference in 2014? If so, you are in luck. Below is scholarship information provided by Dean Mike Jungers, Dean of Students. If there are any questions, please check out the website below, or contact Dean Jungers for more information.

The Association of Student Conduct Administrators has 3 difference scholarship programs for the 2014 Annual Conference. To obtain information concerning the scholarships and requirements, and on how to submit an application, click on the link provided: <http://www.theasca.org/content.asp?contentid=123>.

Please read carefully the information below of the requirements and click on the link provided to submit an application.

Please mark your calendar with these important dates:

~ **Tuesday, September 24:** Applications available Online

~ **Thursday, October 31:** Applications Due

~ **Friday, November 1:** Review of Applications Begins

~ **Thursday, November 14:** Applicants Notified

~ **Monday, January 6:** Early Bird Registration ends

~ **Wednesday, February 5 - Saturday, February 8:** 2014 ASCA Annual Conference

Providing Effective, Truthful References

Jack Hunter, Director of the Career Center, has taken the time to provide some great insight on how to best be supportive and provide effective references for your students who may be asking in the coming weeks. This is the time of the year when most employers conduct interviews for full-time or internship opportunities which will commence the following summer. You may be asked to provide be a reference or write a reference letter for one of more students. If so, I suggest that you consider the following processes to protect you and the candidate.

1. Prior to providing a reference, obtain consent from the person about whom the reference will be given. If you are unaware that the job applicant has named you as a reference, ask the prospective employer for verification that the individual has given consent for the reference. Such verification could include a copy of the student's signed application listing you as a reference, your name listed as a reference on the student's resume, or verbal confirmation by the student to you.
2. Discuss the type of reference that you will provide with the person who asks you to be a reference. If you cannot provide a good reference, be honest with the individual. Don't promise a "glowing reference" and then provide merely a "glimmer."
3. If "to whom it may concern" reference letters are requested, document that this is the type of reference requested and that the student or job applicant takes responsibility for disseminating the letters to the proper persons.
4. Respond to the specific inquiry about the student or job applicant. Direct the response to the particular person who requested the information.
5. Relate references to the specific position for which the person applied and to the work that the applicant will perform.
6. Informal lunch discussions or "off the record" telephone conversations with prospective employers regarding a person's performance should be avoided. There is no such thing as "off the record."
7. Information given should be factual, based upon personal knowledge/observation of the person through direct contact with the person or obtained from the person's personnel record or student record.
8. Avoid giving personal opinions or feelings. If you make subjective statements or give opinions because they are requested, clearly identify them as opinions and not as fact. If you give an opinion explain the incident or circumstances on which you base the opinion.
9. Don't guess or speculate-if someone asks you questions regarding personal characteristics about which you have no knowledge, state that you have no knowledge.
10. State in a reference letter, "This information is confidential, should be treated as such, and is provided at the request of (name of student or applicant), who has asked me to serve as a reference." Statements such as these give justification for the communication and leave no doubt that the information was not given to hurt a person's reputation.
11. Do not include information that might indicate an individual's race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, citizenship status, sex (unless by the individual's name it is obvious), or marital status. Do not base an opinion of performance on stereotypes about an individuals, for instance "for a woman, she excels in math."

Document all information you release.

Effective reference providers are critical to a successful job search. Good luck!

Flu Vaccinations Offered at Taylor Health and Wellness

It is that time of year to be thinking about stopping by Taylor Health and Wellness Center to receive your **FREE** flu vaccinations. Taylor Health and Wellness Center began offering flu vaccinations on October 1st, and more than 1700 vaccinations were administered last week alone! The vaccinations are timely, as Green County has now confirmed the first influenza case of this season. Taylor Health is pleased to provide the new and improved 4-strain type of flu vaccination. For those with statistic interest, this new strain vaccination may offer an additional 6-8% protection over the tradition 3-strain type. If you have not yet received your flu vaccination, please stop by Taylor Health soon. It is not necessary to make an appointment for receiving a flu vaccination.

MISSOURI STATE HOMECOMING



2013 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**10/13
SUN.**

11:00 AM — 3:00 PM
Decorate Downtown Competition
Downtown Businesses
Check-in at Square downtown

2:00 PM — 6:00 PM
**Window Painting / Spirit Banner/
Chalk-N-Rock Competitions**
Plaster Student Union North Patio

11:00 PM — 12:00 AM
Royalty Blitz
PSU North Mall/ North Patio

**10/14
MON.**

*8:00 AM — 3:00 PM **Up 'til Dawn: Email Blast** PSU Ballroom

11:30 AM — 1:30 PM
Office Decorating Contest
Campus-Wide University Departments

1:00 PM — 3:00 PM
'Can We Build It' Competition
Trotter Plaza – Bear Head
Rain location: PSU

4:00 PM — 10:00 PM
Qdoba Night
Kimbrough & Elm

*King and Queen Elections Available ONLINE**

**10/15
TUES.**

7:00 PM
Rockstar: MSU
Hammons Student Center

*King and Queen Elections Available ONLINE**

**10/16
WED.**

6:00 PM — 9:00 PM
Maroon & White Night: Chili Cook-Off
Plaster Student Union North Patio

*King and Queen Elections Available ONLINE**

**10/17
THURS.**

6:00 PM
Pep Rally/ Yell-like-Hell
Hammons Student Center

9:00 PM — MIDNIGHT
Homecoming Dance
PSU East Ballroom

*King and Queen Elections Available ONLINE**

**10/18
FRI.**

2:00 PM
Canoe Battleship
Bill R. Foster Recreation and
Family Recreational Center

King and Queen Elections Available ONLINE (Voting closes at 5:00 PM)

**10/19
SAT.**

9:00 AM
**Band of Bears:
Homecoming Parade**
John Q. Hammons Pkwy

10:00 AM
BearFest Village Tailgate Party
Parking Lots 22 & 24

1:00 PM
Homecoming Football Game
Plaster Sports Complex



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