

# Truman, MACC reach accord

**Institutions agree on plan that will make transfer easy**

**Nathan Becker**

Assistant News Editor

For some students, transferring to Truman just became a lot easier.

University President Barbara Dixon and Moberly Area Community College President Evelyn Jorgenson signed a transfer articulation agreement Monday that will allow MACC students who have received an Associate in Arts degree to seamlessly transfer all credits to Truman and begin work on their bachelor's degree as a junior.

"The articulation agreement assures [students] don't come here and find out half of their classes aren't going to transfer, and they've got to take this over and all the kinds of things you hear about," Dixon said.

The agreement will help to encourage more MACC students to apply to Truman after they receive their associate degree, which is generally recognized as a transfer degree, Jorgenson said.

"We hear from a lot of students that they would like to go to Truman, but there is a little bit of a fear, if you will," Jorgen-

son said. "They're not sure if they're good enough to go to Truman, they're not sure if they're qualified, and sometimes they simply don't even consider Truman. And it's only because they don't know they can do it."

Dixon said the agreement also will be of particular benefit to Kirksville-area and other local students, and it is important to bring them to Truman.

"I think a lot of them like the area because they've grown up here, but particularly if they are academically talented students that, for whatever reason, started at the community college, this is a gem," Dixon said.

Between 75 and 100 students per year transfer to Truman, and the Uni-

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**Barbara Dixon**

University President

into this agreement. "It takes, actually, a fairly thorough review of



**Evelyn Jorgenson, Moberly Area Community College president, and University President Barbara Dixon sign an articulation agreement Monday. The agreement will allow MACC students with the proper degree to more easily transfer to Truman.**

Chris Tharp/Index

both curriculums," Dixon said. "They have to look at ours, and we have to look at theirs, and we have to kind of compare syllabi and things like that and try to make some smooth transitions. ... One of the things we try to do is make sure students know that it eases transfer if they actually stay at the community college and complete their associate's degree."

Jorgenson said the agreement will be particularly advantageous to students who didn't quite fulfill their potential in high school.

"A lot of times, people have great potential, but they goof around in high school, and their GPA isn't quite what it should be, and they party a little more

than they should," Jorgenson said. "... They have great potential, they could certainly make it at Truman, but they can't always get that entrance into Truman initially because they didn't pay enough attention to what they were doing in high school, but they've got the talent and the academic ability to do it."

Junior Matt Lange, who originally is from Kirksville, transferred to Truman in fall 2004 after spending two semesters at MACC.

Lange said that even though he transferred before the agreement, he still didn't encounter an abundance of paperwork.

"There wasn't anything I didn't expect," Lange said. "It was a pretty easy process

to transfer over."

He said the terms outlined by the agreement sound similar to the process he went through more than a year ago.

"If they're making that official now, I guess is what they're doing, I think that's great," Lange said. "It makes it easier that ... you just go straight into your major field from doing basically at Truman what you've already done at Moberly as far as the general ed classes go."

Truman already has articulation agreements in place with Indian Hills Community College (Iowa), The Metropolitan Community Colleges (Mo.) and St. Charles Community College (Mo.), according to the registrar's Web site.

# Cyber stalkers seek out MySpace users

**Lindsay McReynolds**

Advertising Manager

Many students use MySpace.com and other Internet forums as a diary, but some online predators use them as an opportunity to find their next victims.

Police arrested and charged a California man for sending sexually suggestive messages to a fake profile of a 15-year-old girl and later agreeing to meet her, according to an article on CNN.com posted Tuesday. Police also have arrested other sexual predators in cases involving MySpace, including one Monday in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Senior Heather McNelly, who uses MySpace to keep up with friends, said she has received more than 15 questionable messages from unknown people.

"This one guy from my town was like, 'Hey, this is my phone number, why don't you come over to my house tonight? I'm having a party,'" McNelly said. "I didn't know him."

However, McNelly said she protects herself online by limiting the personal information she posts on MySpace.

"I have my town and where I went to high school, and I went to another college before I came here and the fact that I go to Truman," McNelly said. "I have my IM name on there, but no address or phone number."

McNelly said she posts pictures online to stay in contact with out-of-state friends.

However, her friends are not the only ones who are able to view

## PROTECT YOURSELF!

**To block a user:**

- view the person's profile
- click "Block User"

**To remove a "friend":**

- click "Home" from any MySpace page
- scroll to "My Friend Space"
- click "Edit Friends"
- find the person & click "Delete Friend"

Design by Marissa Sharkey/Index

the pictures.

"I have pictures on there, and random people will be like, 'Sexy pic,'" McNelly said. "It's freaky."

Officer Richard Walters of the Kirksville Police Department said people should understand how dangerous it is to post personal information online.

"There are real dangers of putting information on the Web, and you need to let them know how dangerous it is and how dangerous it can be," Walters said.

Some people aren't aware of how vulnerable to cyber stalking they are. Sophomore Olivia King said she has photos but limited personal information revealed in her MySpace profile. She said she couldn't believe cyber stalking occurs so frequently.

"It's just really weird that this happens," King said.

Jayne Hitchcock, president of

Working to Halt Online Abuse, said she thinks Web log, or blog, sites such as MySpace, Facebook and Livejournal don't protect users from cyber stalking.

"These Web sites could do a much better job in educating their users about how to make their profiles safer," Hitchcock said. "I feel that the majority of them, MySpace included, don't do a good job of this at all. Their goal is to get as many people to sign up as users as possible, and safety seems to be their least concern."

Another way cyber stalkers find victims is through their computers' Internet Protocol address, which is a number assigned to a person's computer. Through that number, cyber stalkers can track down exactly where a person lives.

Senior Caleb Jorden, a computer science major, said students cannot protect their IP address.

"Your IP shows up in a lot of places," Jorden said. "It'll show up in most of your e-mails. It'll often be pretty visible, especially if you are doing things like file-sharing. That's very dangerous in general and not a good idea to participate in."

Jorden said certain sites contain programs set up to track a user's IP address once he or she opens the page.

"Browsing Web pages, if someone has a malicious Web site, and they have a computer log as to see who visits their Web sites, they can track your address that way," Jorden said.

Jorden said students should remember who could access their information before posting it on the Internet.

"Anything you put on Facebook, Xanga, any site like that can be read by anyone," Jorden said. "And the law enforcement is becoming more adept to using that information against you."

Jorden said he suggest students search for their name on Google to see what of their personal information is on the Internet.

"Sometimes you would be surprised as to what people find - your phone number, e-mail address, stuff like that," Jorden said.

People who believe they are victims of cyber stalking or want to find out more about it can visit the Web site <http://www.haltabuse.org> or <http://haltabusekt.d.org> to obtain more information about how to prevent themselves from becoming a victim.

## NEWS | In Brief

### Emergency alarms will test Tuesday

Alarms will sound as Kirksville participates in Missouri's annual statewide severe weather drill, the Kirksville/Adair County E-911 Joint Communications Center announced. The drill will be Tuesday at about 1:30 p.m. The outdoor warning sirens and cable override will be activated. Normal sounding time for the sirens is about three minutes. If there is inclement weather, the sirens instead will sound Thursday.

### Renovations temporarily put on hold

University administrators rescheduled the beginning stages of Student Union Building renovations to avoid disrupting food services, said Dennis Markeson, director of food services.

Jazzman's and Freshens, which were slated for relocation during midterm break, will remain at full service in the SUB Down Under until immediately after graduation, when they will move to the second floor, Markeson said.

### Mock Trial team qualifies for nationals

The Mock Trial team participated in the American Mock Trial Association Regional Tournament in St. Louis on Feb. 24 to 26. The team finished the tournament with a 6-2 record, which qualifies it for the national tournament for the first time in team history. The tournament will be March 17 to 19 in St. Paul, Minn.

Several members won individual awards at regionals, including senior Joshua Jones and junior Brad Brown, who received the Best Attorney Award. Senior Beth Rybak received the Best Witness Award after she notched a perfect score as a witness.

### Scholarship jobs to be posted online

Students will receive scholarship renewal forms in March. Those looking for scholarship jobs for next fall and spring will find job openings posted at <http://truman.erecruiting.com>. Faculty and staff may also post summer positions for students who plan on using a semester of scholarship during the summer or students who receive work-study for the summer.

### Public Safety offers shuttle to train station

The Department of Public Safety will provide a shuttle service to and from the LaPlata train station for Midterm break. Reservations are due today and cost \$5. Travelers should meet to load the shuttle by 8:30 a.m. Saturday at the Public Safety building. For more information, call Public Safety at 785-4177.

## Student Senate | In Brief

- Incoming senator freshman Mark Enselman, senator freshman Mike Pieper, and technology chairman senior Ashley Young were absent from Sunday's meeting. After Senate returned from recess, incoming senator freshman Tracey Blasingame, senator senior Tomoyuki Ekuni, historian junior Becky Hadley, senator senior Stephen Huss, senator junior Josh Kappel, president junior Mark Kirtland and study abroad committee chairwoman Emily Meyer were not present.
- Dennis Markeson, director of food services, and University Controller Judy Mullins addressed Senate in regards to ramifications of removing the 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. meal block blackout in the Student Union Building and changes to eating patterns next year when Missouri Hall goes offline.
- Senate swore in sophomore Jessica Mierkowski as parking appeals chairwoman.
- Senate approved a resolution that supports keeping the computer literacy essential skill requirement.
- Senate approved a resolution calling for the abolition of the Student Union meal block blackout.
- Senate passed a motion to spend \$150 for Earth Week activities.
- Senate passed a motion to spend \$800 on vision outreach dinner costs.
- Senate passed a motion to spend \$175 on election posters and tent tables.
- Senate passed a motion to spend \$80 from the agency account for leftover T-shirts.
- Senate discussed items discussed at the vision outreach dinner March 2.
- Senate will move this week to the SUB Governors' room because of Student Union renovations.
- Senate will not meet March 19 because of midterm break.
- Senate tabled a motion to reduce the number of signatures required on election petitions.

## DPS | Reports

- 3/5 Report of fraud.
- 3/4 Report of hit and run from Parking Lot 6.
- 3/4 Report of hit and run from Parking Lot 36.
- 3/4 Report of hit and run from Parking Lot 27.

## Off-Campus Housing

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