



CSI - Kirksville

On-campus crime lab dispels TV-inspired myths

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The University's student-produced newspaper

Doubling It Up

Women sweep Wash U and UMR in dual meet

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Kirksville, Mo. 63501

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Professor of Fine Arts James Harmon listens as Vice President for Academic Affairs Garry Gordon answers questions from professors at a meeting discussing possible reshuffling in academic divisions.

## ModelOne

Creates three academic deans for:

- College of arts & science
- School of business
- School of education & allied health

## ModelTwo

Eliminates academic divisions

- All disciplines combined under academic programs
- Creates new associate vice president for academic affairs

## ModelThree

Creates five academic deans for:

- Science & math
- Fine arts & communication
- Education & allied health
- Humanities & social sciences
- Business

Design by Roger Meissen

# Blunt cancels visit to town

Jessie Gasch  
Assistant News Editor

Gov. Matt Blunt hopes his new education initiative has a smoother ride than he did on his Friday flight to Kirksville.

Blunt planned a two-day trip to several Missouri cities to announce "Our Students First - First Class Education for Missouri" but had landing gear problems within a half-mile of the Kirksville Regional Airport, airport director David Hall said.

"They didn't get a down-and-locked [signal]," said Ken Koopmans, interim manager at the Columbia Regional Airport, the plane's home base. "So they were diverted here. They did a fly-by past the tower, and they visually confirmed the landing gear was down."

He said the pilot declared an in-flight emergency as a precautionary measure, and emergency vehicles were in place, but weren't needed.

"They landed straight ahead, and everything was fine," he said.

About 30 Kirksville citizens who crowded into the airport's waiting room were told Blunt would not return Friday.

Jessica Robinson, Blunt's press secretary, said he might schedule another visit soon.

"Hopefully he will be able to, but certainly if he is in the area," he said. "This is going to be ongoing for several months."

Blunt planned to speak about the education initiative, which will mandate that school districts spend at least 65 percent of their budgets on direct instruction costs. This includes teachers' salaries, textbooks, classroom supplies and technology resources as well as arts, music, drama and athletics.

"[It is] everything that's included by the National Center for Educational Statistics," Robinson said. "The largest portion of that is teachers' salaries."

Only 112 of Missouri's 524 school districts currently meet the proposed standard, with a total average of 61 percent of budgets allocated to direct instruction. The initiative will go to the General Assembly first, sponsored by Rep. Scott Muschany, R-St. Louis. Sen. Rob Mayer, R-Dexter, and voters should look for the possible amendment on the November 2006 ballot.

"This is something that all people should support," Robinson said. "It makes sense for us to spend our money where it makes the most difference for kids."

She said the schools that meet or exceed the 65 percent target range in size and location.

"There are all kinds - rural districts and city districts," Robinson said. "They come from all over, so we know it is a reasonable goal."

If the amendment is passed, districts will be granted temporary waivers to give them time to reallocate money, she said.

Other costs, including counseling, libraries, bus transportation, administrative salaries and other expenses, aren't without value, Robinson said.

"But they are not direct classroom costs," she said. "Certainly the governor and the initiative recognize the importance of those services, otherwise it would be 100 percent."

Robinson said districts will have to prioritize those costs out of direct instruction, but the amendment still would allow for flexibility.

Joyce Montgomery, assistant superintendent of the Kirksville R-III School District, said she is concerned about the initiative.

"I'll be quite honest - I believe See BLUNT, Page 9

# Changing the Model

Administration considers changing division structure

# Academics face reorganization

Dixon announces plans for reworking campus academic hierarchy

Roger Meissen  
Design Editor

University professors considered handouts of hierarchical structures with pensive looks and furrowed brows as President Barbara Dixon spoke Friday afternoon.

They gathered in one of four forums to offer comments on and

criticisms of Dixon's proposal for reorganization of the University's division system. These changes, if implemented, would replace divisions with groupings that separate academic areas less and increase power for individual majors through more effective part-time conveners or academic chairs.

"It's changing the level of leadership," Dixon said. "It's placing more leadership and more empowerment in the hands of the faculty, and that means more people are closer to the students. The leader-

ship has more immediate contact with the students because they're still teaching."

The roles of academic chairs are not definite but likely would include peer evaluation, personnel issues and some budgetary responsibilities while receiving a reduction of teaching requirements from a half to a third, Dixon said. The proposed changes aim to address faculty concerns relating to the uneven roles of conveners in each division and will alleviate workload issues with

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# Sexual assaults can be more prevalent than records show

Amanda Boyle  
Staff Reporter

In her fourth year at the University, senior A.J. Barks said she does not know anyone whom sexual assault has not affected.

Even though only four rapes have been reported to the Department of Public Safety since 2002, according to the University's 2004 campus crime report, many think the issue is much more prevalent.

Barks, co-director of the Women's Resource Center, said not everyone she knows necessarily has been raped, but they at least have felt the effects of a sexual assault of a friend or family member.

She said she is sure everyone on campus one day will be made aware of how prevalent rape and sexual assault are and stresses

how important it is for people not to be ignorant of it.

"You shouldn't want to know about it because it might happen to you," she said. "You should want to know about it because it does happen."

Joe Hamilton, assistant director of the University Counseling Center, said that because many victims of sexual assault do not feel comfortable talking about it until much later, oftentimes rape and sexual assault go unreported.

"It is hard to know the actual number of students that are affected by sexual assault," he said. "I'd say the number of people reporting [sexual assault here] is consistent with other universities. There are still a lot of fears about reporting."

Hamilton said that during the past few years, on average, 5 per-

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cent of the students who come to the counseling center come in because of sexual assault. He said the assaults typically have not been recent for the students who come in.

The counseling center provides services beyond counseling, such as Students Together Educating Peers, informative programs and occasionally group counseling.

He said the center sometimes recommends victims of sexual assault go to the local organization Victim Support Services.

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Public Safety Director Tom Johnson said the blue lights have not been used for an emergency in at least two years.

# University renews capital campaign efforts

John Scognamiglio  
Staff Reporter

University projects might have a new money source in the near future.

The University embarked on a capital campaign to fundraise for various campus uses.

Mark Gambaiana, vice president for University advancement, said the campaign is still in its early stages.

"The first step is to have on-campus focus group meetings," Gambaiana said. "We are go-

ing to have 10 to 12 meetings with each of the eight academic divisions and other key departments, like athletics and the library, to get their input on what might be good projects to raise support for."

Two of the projects that could receive funding are the new multimedia center and Pershing Building.

Jerry Wollmering, director of athletics, said Pershing Building hasn't undergone a major renovation since the 1960s.

"Pershing was built at a time where we

only had around four sports, but now, we still have the same facility 40 years later with 21 sports," Wollmering said.

Wollmering said he'd like to see a practice venue to go with the performance arena.

Also, the shell and building of the multimedia center outside Magruder Hall are completed, but the interior needs work. Scott Ellis, science dean, said they had just enough money for the shell.

"We made a decision not to use statemoney for this facility, but to bring it online as either

additional University funds or funds raised through the development office," he said. "I think we've spent close to several hundred thousand dollars to build the shell, and that includes everything you see on the outside."

Ellis said it would take about an additional \$1 million to finish the multimedia center project.

"We could get lucky and get some of the equipment at less than we anticipated or not buy as much equipment as we need," he said.

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### Wal-Mart Woes

Columnist Andrew Gant responds to an open letter defending the retail giant.



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### Big Easy Poetry

New Orleans poet comes to campus after winning T.S. Eliot Prize for poetry.



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### Media Buyout

KTVO owner Raycom Media puts local TV station up for sale, citing market issues.



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## THIS WEEK | weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Sunny	T-Storms	Partly Cloudy
High 66 Low 48	High 65 Low 46	High 60 Low 39