

# HES program will revamp lab

**Tyler Madsen**  
Staff Reporter

As the health and exercise science department looks toward its future, it remembers the man who helped mold its past.

The Fontaine C. Piper Movement Analysis Laboratory, a project designed to recognize Fontaine Piper's lasting contributions to the health and exercise science program, will provide HES students and faculty with an upgraded laboratory that will contain nearly \$100,000 worth of new equipment. The research conducted in the laboratory will focus on three areas that Piper taught and researched before his retirement — biomechanics, motor learning and anatomy.

"We tried to design a project that would capture those three areas," said Chris Lantz, health and exercise science program director. "The technology we have now somewhat limits the depth that our students can reach through research, so this project will serve as a resource that can impact student learning for years to come."

The updated laboratory equipment will help HES students perform research in additional areas such as prosthetics, orthotics, ergonomics, geriatric medicine, motion modeling and simulation, according to the department's Web site. Piper retired June 30, 2005, after

34 years at Truman. In his 34 years, Piper served as assistant dean of student affairs, natatorium director, director of health and exercise science and dean of human potential and performance. While working as the health and exercise science director, Piper changed the mission of the program from health and physical education to the current health and exercise sciences curriculum.

"To be honored in this way is extremely overwhelming," Piper said. "I was just doing my job and working as hard as I could to make sure the department could become one of the most competitive in the Midwest. This really means a lot to me."

The lab will enable students to analyze movement three-dimensionally using the Peak Motus 3D Optical Coordinate Acquisition system,

**"To be honored in this way is extremely overwhelming."**

**Fontaine C. Piper**  
Former University Professor

according to the Web site. Jerry Mayhew, professor of exercise science, said he believes the system will provide health and exercise science students with opportunities that few undergraduate students at other universities will be able to utilize.

"Laboratories, just like anything else on a college campus, have to continually be updated," Mayhew said. "The new equipment will put us up on the same level as larger institutions, and it will give students here an opportunity to use the best equipment in the country in advance of their future experiences in graduate school."

Health and exercise science

faculty and students from two student organizations, Phi Epsilon Kappa and the Student Public Health Association, will work with the Office of Advancement to contact former health and exercise science students to request donations for what will be the greatest monetary goal in the department's history.

Through word-of-mouth alone, the department has raised about \$15,000 toward the completion of the endeavor.

"We view this as a three-year project," Lantz said. "We may be able to purchase some pieces of equipment for the laboratory ahead of time, but my hope is that we will have a naming ceremony and a complete lab in three years."

When the laboratory is complete, Lantz said he believes it could potentially become a great opportunity for Truman students and A.T. Still University faculty to collaborate on research projects.

"That will give our students with medical aspirations some connections there and information about what it takes to be a clinical researcher," Lantz said.

Piper said the lab is just a beginning for what is yet to come in continuing to make Truman's health and exercise science department one of the best in the Midwest.

"With Pershing Building housing so many activities, classes and sports, it was extremely important that we make this first step in adapting to students' needs," he said. "Hopefully this will serve as a solid foundation for more projects down the road."



Phil Jarrett/Index

The future Pershing site of the Fontaine C. Piper Movement Analysis Laboratory is in a state of disarray. Health and Exercise Science students will recognize longtime Truman faculty member Piper by dedicating the soon-to-be upgraded lab to his contributions to the University.

## MCCLAIN | Former University president submits resignation to MOHELA board

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"That particular seat needed to have experience and a position in the financial industry," said Spence Jackson, spokesperson for Blunt.

He said the governor's office is actively seeking a replacement for Ricks, but only can fill McClain's spot with the commissioner of the Missouri Department of Higher Education.

"We're also encouraging the Higher Education Board to appoint

an interim [commissioner] so that that person can vote in what will be a watershed event for higher education," Jackson said.

He said the plan still requires four votes to pass, even if the open spots remain unfilled.

Scott Holste, a spokesperson for Nixon, said the Attorney General's office continues to take issue with the legality of the MOHELA plan.

"The original purpose under Missouri law is that MOHELA has been set up to enable Missouri

students to have an affordable college education," he said. "We don't believe this proposal advances this cause. ... We also have had concerns how this proposal has been put together without public input."

Holste said the money that MOHELA will allocate to Missouri campuses, which in Truman's case will be earmarked for the renovation of Pershing Building, represents down payment on the costs of renovation, not the total cost of completing the capital projects, so

at some point more funding will be necessary.

"And that might result in higher tuition costs," he said.

He said he could not comment as to whether any of the remaining MOHELA board members might have potential conflicts of interest in voting on the plan.

An agenda posted Wednesday to the MOHELA Web site confirms that the board will go ahead with a vote on whether to enact the MOHELA proposal Sept. 27.

## MOHELA | Vote concerns Pershing's future

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"That's why the governor and the department of Higher Ed picked these projects. Institutions were asked to set priorities, but they were also asked to focus on health science related programs if possible."

The MOHELA funding plan is not without opposition.

In a Sept. 6 letter to MOHELA board members, Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon said he is concerned with the legality of the plan. Nixon refers to conflicts of interest on part of the MOHELA board as well as his intention to ensure that MOHELA's assets are used to serve its purpose among his reservations regarding the plan.

MOHELA originally was in-

tended to provide low-interest loans to students. Nixon's letter cites a concern that the sale of MOHELA's assets to support the neglected capital fund will come at the expense of state aid available for students.

In response, Blunt met with the presidents of the Missouri university system Sept. 13, Dixon said.

"[Blunt is] very committed to doing this," Dixon said. "He recognizes the need for capital funding. Even though the revenues are strong this year, they're not going to be strong enough to do this plus everything else that needs doing."

Dixon said if all goes as planned, work would begin soon. "The earliest we would begin construction would be January '08," Dixon said.

## BACTERIA | E. coli outbreak hits home, affects members of Truman community

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E. coli infection, and after a week of antibiotics, Jones was back to normal.

Companies have taken precautions to avoid more cases of E. coli infections. Hy-Vee and Sodexo have refrained from serving spinach in an effort to protect the well-being of the Kirksville and Truman communities.

The Food and Drug Administration issued a warning Monday that Americans should refrain from the consumption of fresh leaf spinach and salad blends. More than 100 cases in the United States reportedly associated the E. coli infection with consumption of fresh spinach.

One cause is Natural Selection Foods LLC, the world's largest manufacturer of produce. Natural Selection Foods, from whom Hy-Vee purchases food, has been linked to the recent E. coli epidemic. Although no one knows for sure what has caused the outbreak, the Food and Drug Administration will review irrigation methods and practices at Natural Selection Foods and on individual farms. Natural Selection Foods recalled its packaged spinach, as did other produce companies as a precautionary measure.

Chris Friefleben, assistant director of communications for Hy-Vee, said Hy-Vee receives regular alerts from trade industries and the government and pulled the tainted produce from the shelves as soon as they received notification

Friday. Corporate offices for Hy-Vee instructed all stores to destroy the spinach, per FDA request, and offer refunds for the product.

"E. coli can live on spinach that looks perfectly intact," she said.

Friefleben said customers were encouraged to return or discard all purchased bagged spinach.

"We are concerned about the safety and health of our customers," Friefleben said.

She said to protect the health of the customers, they have a "better safe than sorry" attitude.

Dennis Markeson, Sodexo director of dining services, shared these same concerns regarding University students, faculty and staff.

"The company is strict on how we handle food," Markeson said.

Immediately after notification of the E. coli bacteria found in spinach, Sodexo stopped serving spinach completely and discarded the remaining 10 to 15 cases. Markeson said Sodexo does not know when they will begin selling fresh leaf spinach again.

Although the Kirksville community has been fairly fortunate so far, others have not. As of Sunday, 109 people from 19 states had reported their E. coli infections to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Among those people, 50 percent were hospitalized

and 15 percent developed HUS.

In the last few weeks, two people have died from E. coli-related illnesses caused by spinach consumption. E. coli causes an estimated 73,000 cases of infection, including 61 deaths each year, according to the CDC Web site.

Anyone who recently has eaten spinach should look for these symptoms to take precautions and ensure the speedy diagnosis of an E. coli O157:H7 infection: bloody diarrhea, abdominal cramps and fever.

In some cases, a person can be infected without exhibited any symptoms at all.

"Symptoms usually show up around four days after the person has been exposed," said Brenda Higgins, director of the Student Health Center.

Higgins said she encourages individuals with symptoms of E. coli to go to the health center or local physician as soon as possible. She said the doctor who administers the test has to be specifically looking for E. coli, she said.

"Normal stool cultures doesn't cover this," Higgins said.

She said avoiding fresh spinach and salad blends is the best way to prevent getting E. coli until the FDA has given further notice.

**"E. coli can live on spinach that looks perfectly intact."**

**Chris Friefleben**  
Assistant Director of Communications for Hy-Vee

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