

All eyes on Mark Schultz

“I can see more work in front of me than I have left in my career.”

Campus planner takes few days off

BY JULIA HANSEN
Staff Reporter

Campus Planner Mark Schultz is a self-proclaimed workaholic.

In his cowboy boots and hat, Schultz stepped into his position in January of 2007 and has seldom quit working since. The Campus Planning office manages renovations, constructions and upkeep of University buildings, so as buildings across campus undergo construction, Schultz has stays busy.

Weekday mornings Schultz leaves his house just outside of Sturgeon, Mo., at 6 a.m. to arrive at Truman a little after 7 a.m. Schultz said he often works until 6 p.m. before making the hour-and-15-minute drive home, and he works many Saturdays as well.

“It’s fun to work at Truman,” Schultz said. “I feel a little overwhelmed at times, but I like the activity, and I like the rush to get a design and then to get it built. I like watching construction go up — I always have.”

Schultz said that when he became Campus Planner in 2007 a plan of building renovations and construction already was laid out for him, but he said he sees no end to the work in sight.

“I can see more work in front of me than I have left in my career,” Schultz said with a chuckle. “[Because] we’re

looking at next year for Dobson, and the following two years for Ryle, and the following two years for Centennial. Then we’re going to have to think about Grim-Smith dormitory, and meanwhile we still have to do Pershing and we’re going to need to do Kirk Building and Kirk Memorial and Baldwin and McClain. So there’s a pretty good little pile of work already laid out.”

Schultz said he has not taken a vacation since 1991 when he took a cruise to Paradise Island in the Bahamas. More recently he has taken trips to New York and other places, but he said they were always work related. Schultz said he and his wife are looking into going on a cruise within the next year or so to either Alaska or the Caribbean. Schultz said a trip to Ireland and Scotland to visit the home of his ancestors also is a possibility for their upcoming vacation.

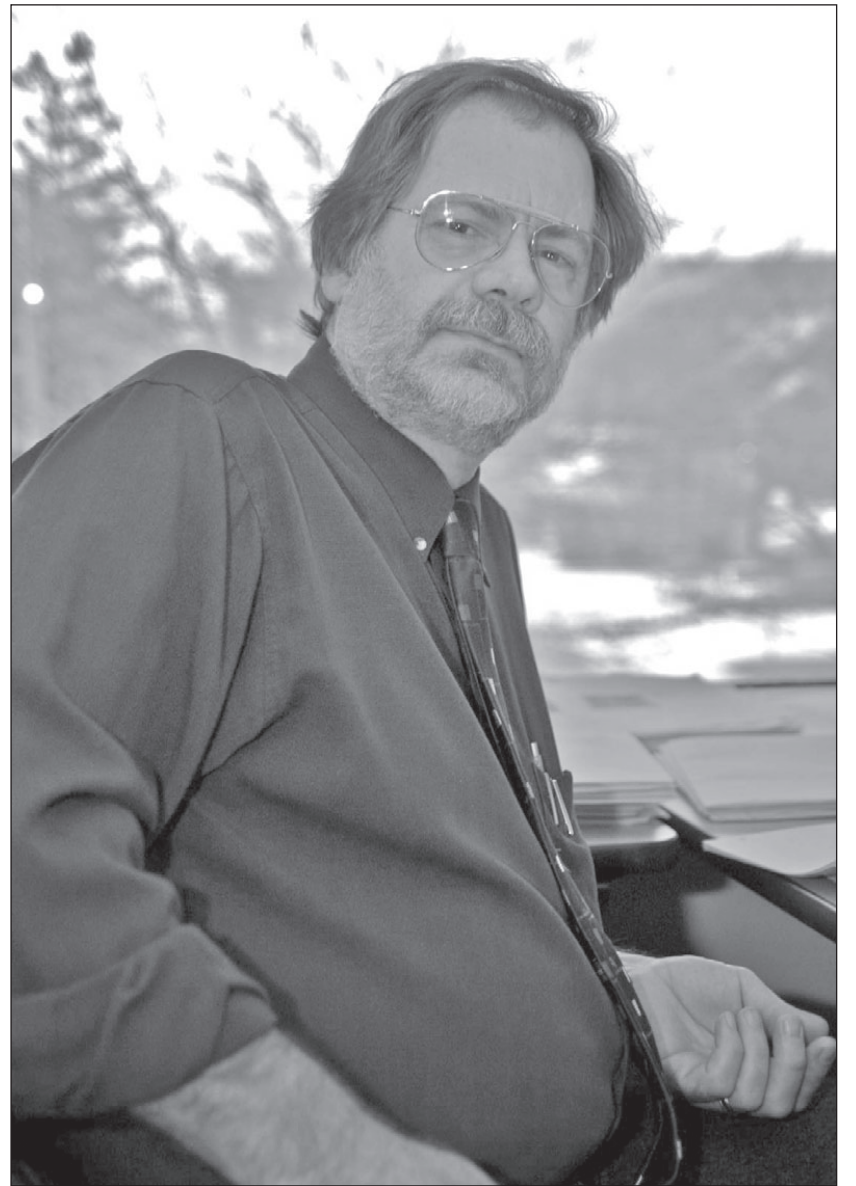
Schultz’s path to designing and constructing buildings began at a very young age. Born in Springfield, Ill., Schultz grew up around construction sites because his father was a developer and builder. Schultz said that as a kid he al-

ways liked building things, but it wasn’t until junior high school that he discovered his love for drafting. After graduating from high school Schultz received a bachelor’s degree in Environmental Design from the School of Architecture at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kan. Schultz completed three years of internships with companies in

Columbia, Mo., before taking exams and receiving his official architecture registration. The years thereafter Schultz spent working on designing and constructing buildings in Columbia primarily with the University of Missouri and with Columbia Public Schools.

When Schultz is not working, he said he enjoys spending time on land he and his family own just outside of Sturgeon. The 20 acres Schultz owns are host to 20 fruit trees, honey bees, five old rescue dogs and the house he designed and built. Schultz’s land also butts up to a farm owned by his brother-in-law, so from time to time he will help bale hay or take care of the cattle on his in-law’s fields.

Schultz might sound like a rootin’



Blake Peterson/Index

Campus Planner Mark Schultz said he enjoys his career, working nearly 13 hour days, including the drive to campus from Sturgeon, Mo.

tootin’ cowboy, and if you saw him you might think the same. Schultz does not own a pair of tennis shoes, but he does own multiple pairs of cowboy boots.

“I always have my hat, and I always have my cowboy boots,” Schultz said. “I have one pair of boots from

the Wellington boot company which makes the boots for the Guard in England. These [I am wearing] are ostrich, and I have two pairs of elephant boots. They’re tough to get broken in, but you can take a knife to them and you can’t hurt them.”



Mayank Dhugana/Index

George Hiatt, owner of Sport Cards in Kirksville, said he started the baseball card collectors store as a hobby to supplement his enjoyment of sports.

CARD | Local store buys and sells collectibles of popular pastime

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he kind of got us interested in it. I started ever since.”

Corey said they have six or seven sets of cards collectively, including a 1985 set to commemorate the year they were born. The set includes a Roger Clemens rookie card, which Corey said is the card he treasures most.

“It’s never been opened because it loses a little value if it’s been opened, and I’d love to open it,” he said. “I wouldn’t let that go ever, and that’s kind of hid in the [1985 set]. I know where it’s at, but I don’t go anywhere near it.”

Travis said he and his brother

used to trade their cards on the bus and even with each other when they were younger but that they stopped their hobby once they began high school.

“Finally a couple years ago we decided to look at them again, and we were just trading cards back and forth to get our sets back because I’d trade him cards, and he’d trade me cards, and we intertwined our sets,” Travis said.

Travis said he wished he had kept his cards in better shape so they would be worth more now. Both boys said they agreed that they would never sell their cards in the future.

“I don’t think I will ever sell them,” Corey said. “I know

people who do [sell cards] and make good money out of it. I’ll be the one who buys them from people off of eBay probably, but I don’t think I’ll ever sell mine. I’ll pass them down to my kids.”

Travis said he also would like to pass his cards down to his kids and that every card is valuable to him. Corey said card collecting is a great, safe way for kids to spend their time.

“I think it’s a good, healthy hobby for little kids,” he said. “It keeps them out of trouble, and it helps them stay in the game and know who’s who, and when it’s on TV they can be like, ‘I know them. I have

TOUR | Student ambassadors show potential freshmen campus

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while they’re here in the moment, now, having that student perspective to be given to parents and prospective students, that’s a really good thing,” Hoylman said. “Also, what makes our program really special is that we’re all volunteers. So we’re not being paid to say something about the University. So everything we communicate is coming from us. Nobody is pressuring us to say anything.”

Junior psychology major Alana Webster has been a student ambassador since her sophomore year. She said she had a similar program at her high school and wanted to continue her work.

Webster said she thinks the program gives incoming students a more intimate idea of what the University is like.

“It’s a really good way for people to get a personal insight about campus,” Webster said. “It is just giving a tour, but you can add your own special feeling to it, talk about your favorite places on campus as you go.”

In order to give prospective students tours, the student ambassadors must go through mandatory training in the spring. The training includes reviewing a handbook, which has general information about the University, and shadowing several tours, including one visit day. Webster added that tours can be adjusted to a student’s interests.

Giving tours isn’t always so easy, Webster said.

“On the off chance that you’re having a bad day and you have to go give a tour, it can be really hard to get through,” Webster said.

Webster is the vice president of membership for the student ambassadors. She keeps the attendance records and writes



Krista Goodman/Index

Junior Rachel Uhlig shows prospective students campus as a part of the Student Ambassador program.

an article for the ambassadors’ newsletter that highlights activities, groups and renovations on campus to keep the members updated.

“I really like the behind-the-scenes stuff that happens, just because that’s the type of person I am,” Webster said. “This past visit day I met a girl that wanted to follow the exact same career path as I. It really opens you up to find people that have things in common with you, and that also makes the experience a lot better.”

Webster said she wanted to be a student ambassador to help prospective students and to learn about Truman herself.

“To help people in their decision to come here and give information to people that didn’t really know anything and just learn information myself,” Webster said. “You learn a lot about Truman, especially history stuff, and some of the inner workings that are going on.”

Graves, who has been the ambassador adviser for the past three years, said she has growing confidence in the officer team to coordinate the program. This

group of ambassadors includes positions such as the president, vice president, overnight host coordinator and visit event assistant. She said she hopes the program will evolve into a more student-run group.

Another goal Graves has is to have a Web site where prospective students can interact, she said.

“One of the initiatives I’m working toward is having more of a public face on a Web site for the ambassadors,” Graves said. “What I hope, and it may even happen next year, is to have profiles of the ambassadors and the option for prospective students to find who their tour guide was, ask questions and be a little more bit interactive. We’re just not there yet.”

Hoylman said she has high hopes for the student ambassadors in the future.

“I would like to see more people volunteer for it and become a part of it,” Hoylman said. “We try to make it convenient for the visiting students and families and need more people to be more flexible for them. The more students we have, the better.”

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