

# Restructuring realized

Academic divisions reorganized into three schools, 25 departments

BY CHRIS BONING  
Assistant News Editor

The saga of restructuring continues. The University has successfully reorganized itself into a college and two schools, as was first proposed by President Barbara Dixon nearly a year ago. The change causes a departure from the old system of academic divisions.

Ralph Cupelli, assistant to the vice president for academic affairs, said all of the major components from the final restructuring plan announced last spring have been implemented, and the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business and the School of Health Science and Education have been formed.

He said the college and schools are broken down further into departments, except for the School of Business.

The School of Business is divided differently because it set its own organizational pattern long before the university-wide reshuffling was proposed, Cupelli said.

He said all deans and department

chairs have been hired, although secretaries still are needed in a few offices.

"It's pretty much in place," he said. Cupelli said the only significant changes from the original plan are related to the names of departments, such as the newly christened department of anthropology, geography and sociology.

"We've done some fine-tuning, but the basic concept has stayed the same," Cupelli said.

Cupelli said the implementation team that formed in the spring to work out minor details still is active and has been training new department heads. He said he expects the team to disband in a year or two after faculty and students become accustomed to the new structure.

Despite initial concerns (see [www.trumanindex.com](http://www.trumanindex.com) for more details), cooperation from faculty has been good overall, Cupelli said.

"People are always apprehensive of change and how it's going to impact [them]," he said. "We have more ... people asking questions ... because some of the [administrative] forms haven't been changed, and that's going to evolve. We're looking at a different process to make it simpler, if we can."

Cupelli said he hasn't received much

feedback from students, either positive or negative.

"I think this is a good week to see what happens," he said.

Steven Reschly, history department chairman, said he likes the new reorganization structure.

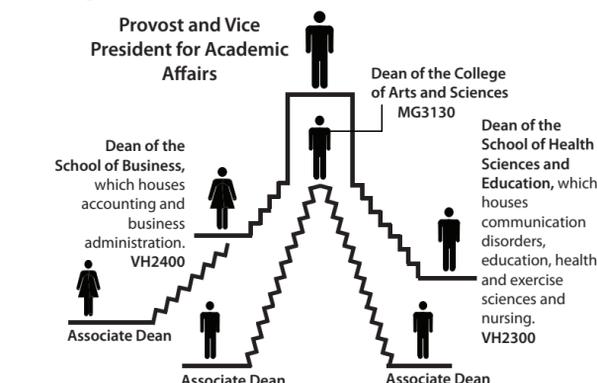
"I think it gives departments a clearer identity [and] more authority to set our own direction in relation to [the] university mission and other departments, of course," he said. "These aren't completely autonomous entities, but I think it gives history and every other department, for that matter, more visibility. This makes us more in line with other colleges and universities, and I think our external constituency will know how to better relate to us."

Reschly also said he thinks the old division system was confusing for those who were not familiar with it. The only problems he has encountered are new restrictions that have been placed on his department's budget, specifically money set aside for faculty travel, he said.

"Transition itself is always a challenge, but if we can continue heading in this direction, I think it will be an improvement," he added.

Senior Rachel Hogan works in the office for the departments of econom-

## Building for the future: Truman's new academic framework



The College of Arts and Sciences houses agricultural science, art, biology, chemistry, classical and modern languages, communication, economics, english and linguistics, history, justice systems, math and computer science, music, philosophy and religion, physics, political science, psychology, ROTC, sociology, anthropology and geography, and theatre.

Source: University Provost

Design by Jessie Gasch/Index

ics, history, philosophy and religion, political science and psychology.

Hogan said she has had to direct baffled students and professors to the proper offices while she herself learns the ropes of the new structure.

However, she said her job was not too hectic for her first day, Monday.

"I don't foresee it being too much

of a problem for us," Hogan said. "It might be confusing for a while [to have to explain] exactly why things are going where they are going."

Cupelli said students who still are unsure of where to go should consult the University's Web site. A conversion chart of changes in office names and locations has been posted there, he said.

# Kirk Memorial remains in state of disrepair

Historic building may be slated for repairs in coming years

BY SHELBY HIGGINBOTHAM  
Staff Reporter

Kirk Memorial may soon be added to Truman State University's renovation list.

One of the most well-known buildings on Truman's campus, Kirk Memorial is no longer the home to several faculty offices. Noted for its structural beauty in the past, the building recently has fallen into disrepair.

"The building is structurally safe," Physical Plant director Karl Schneider said.

Schneider said there were no problems in or around the building that might threaten someone's safety. Only the stairs in front might need structural work because of some cracks and a few missing bricks. He said Kirk Memorial is simply old and in need of cosmetic work.

The Forensics Union has practiced in the building for many years and just recently moved its headquarters to Barnett Hall.

"The move was not because Kirk Memorial was unsafe but because the communication department made the



Jason Williams/Index

The basement of the Kirk Memorial is empty now that all communication professors have moved into Barnett Hall. Repairs to the building would cost about \$1 million.

move to Barnett," Director of Forensics Kevin Minch said.

Another reason for the move was because Barnett was much cleaner and more comfortable than Kirk Memorial, he said. Kirk Memorial tends

to be cold in the winter and hot in the warm months because it has no central air conditioning and is in desperate need of a new heating system.

Kirk Memorial also has falling plaster, dirty, stained walls, and car-

pet and tile that appears to have been in the building since it was built and a major problem in the basement that caused the E.M. Violette Museum located there to move elsewhere because of unbearable humidity.

Minch and the Forensics Union are already taking advantage of the new facilities in Barnett as compared to Kirk Memorial by using the direct parking access and the extra space for practicing and displaying trophies.

"Ever since I have been here the building has always seemed a little out-of-date," senior Jennifer Bradley said.

Bradley said she didn't think it was in really bad shape until she actually went inside.

"It could definitely use a pretty big makeover," she said.

Schneider said it's hard to say whether Kirk Memorial will be restored to how it once was. Kirk Memorial was constructed out of brick, stone and marble in a Grecian style in the shape of a rotunda. It features columns, a Greek portico and stained glass windows with the letters of the fraternities and sororities of the time. To restore all of these features and the basement, plus install central air and heating, would cost about \$1,000,000.

Schneider said the University is only allotted a certain amount of funds for repairs to all buildings on campus and that he didn't think there would be nearly enough money for Kirk Memorial because of certain repairs already set for the coming

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Applications are available in the Index office, located in Barnett Hall 151, and at [www.trumanindex.com](http://www.trumanindex.com). Applications are due by 5 p.m. Sept. 7. For more information, call 785-4449 or e-mail [index@truman.edu](mailto:index@truman.edu).