

FRISBEE | Student Senate met with FAC and JujiTSU frisbee team to discuss lack of funding

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"The bottom line is JujiTSU came totally unprepared," said FAC treasurer senior Elizabeth Andrew. "Their representative that they sent — whether or not he was accurately representing them or not — that's the impression we get, and you would think that all groups would send a representative that is going to accurately portray their group, and apparently that didn't happen, or something happened along the way."

JujiTSU members explained at the Student Senate meeting Sunday that they completed three fundraisers this school year, raising \$2,360 total.

FAC members were concerned about a comment made by Lau regarding the organization of the team and their ability to fundraise.

"When [Senior Austin Underhill, FAC Chair-Elect], sent out his e-mail after we filed the grievance, he had me quoted as saying, 'We were not organized enough,' which is something I did say," Lau said. "But that was part of a two or three minute spiel, in which I was explaining how this was, in fact, the first year we had gathered as a team and actually talked about fundraising before the year. ... Honestly, I did fail to mention one or two things. I did not exactly go into specifics."

Lau said JujiTSU members thought that a table on the Quad for a week was an effective recruitment method for the team, and the team did not want to request funds they were not going to use.

JujiTSU co-captain junior Caleb Stanek said that during the budget crisis, the team decided they could stop asking for poster money that was not necessary to their team.

Stanek said he also didn't think the team had become reliant on FAC funds, because each player was expected to pay dues, purchase jerseys and cleats and pay for some amount of tournament fees, lodging and transportation costs.

To address FAC's wish to fund newer teams, JujiTSU representatives said the team was founded in 1999, more recently than other ICA teams that were allotted money.

"The money from the FAC comes from the student activities fee and that is based off of enrollment," FAC chair senior Jackie Blume said. "Asking for less money is not some-

thing that would help solve the University budget crisis."

Blume said the FAC's reasoning for requiring groups to request poster money is to ensure events are well-publicized on campus and that teams are reaching out to campus.

"If we did need to fund JujiTSU, we would have to be taking that money away from the other ICA teams, the ones that came to their first hearing completely prepared," Blume said. "Those other teams didn't get a second chance to come with more facts and more research. It doesn't seem fair to those other teams."

After hearing JujiTSU's grievance at the Student Senate meeting Sunday, Student Senate President junior JoEllen Flanagan elected to form a committee to speak with both the FAC and JujiTSU.

"[The committee] will ask Senate to either endorse those recommendations or reject them," Flanagan said. "And then from what we agree on from those are what will be forwarded on to the FAC. The only thing we can ask them to do is reconsider their decision. We can't force them to do anything."

Senate will forward its approved recommendations to FAC. Senate can only veto the slate if the committee finds that FAC violated procedures.

FAC members were notified Monday evening that they would have less than 24 hours to prepare for their meeting with the committee Tuesday. In attendance at the meeting were members of FAC and the committee. Committee members asked FAC members questions for about 45 minutes.

"All in all, I think it was pretty fair," Underhill said. "We were pretty professional about it and so were they."

Three members of JujiTSU also met with the committee Tuesday night in a separate meeting. Stanek said both JujiTSU and FAC brought up good points, but his main concern was that FAC funding did not appear to be consistent this year.

"I think the hearing went really well, and the people on the committee understand where we are coming from," Stanek said. "There has to be almost a fault on [FAC's] part rather than just he said, she said."

The 14 other ICA teams requesting funding were granted funds ranging from \$400 to



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index
Sophomore Kevin Ryder reaches for a frisbee during JujiTSU practice Wednesday. The team is appealing lack of FAC funding.

\$2,500 for Fall 2009.

Lack of funding has not been the only curveball thrown at the JujiTSU team. Stanek said it is constantly a struggle to find adequate space to practice. The team's designated practice area is south of the tennis courts in the ROTC area.

"In general, it is just a swamp," Stanek said. "It's not ultimate, and it is not a good practice setting."

The team usually practices in a Kirksville city park and often shares the field space with children. Stanek said this field space

in the park is much smaller than a true ultimate field, which is about the same size as a football field, and without adequate space, the team is only able to run drills, not scrimmage.

"What we saw and why we appealed was because we saw, in the future, if we receive zero funds that this program could go back to its basics in like 1999 when this program first started," Stanek said. "It's kind of a scary thought. We've worked so hard to get to this point."

GUNS | Legislation would lower age limit for applicants, allow concealed weapons on campuses

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"Even being a plain-clothed officer myself, I have to make sure that I'm easily identifiable if I respond to some kind of call involving a gun drawn," Johnson said. "If someone didn't know who I was, it would be easy enough to mistake me for a [gunman]."

Johnson said he thinks this legislation is more of a reaction to shootings on other college campuses in recent history, such as the shooting at Virginia Tech in April 2007 and the Northern Illinois University shooting in February 2008. Johnson said DPS currently holds guns for students in a gun safe located in the DPS office, where they can be checked out for recreational use.

Dean of Student Affairs Lou Ann Gilchrist said she has mixed feelings on the issue. Gilchrist said it's important to not overreact because it won't be the end of the world if the bill passes, but she does not agree with the legislation.

"Philosophically, I just don't like the idea of living in an environment where one has to have a firearm within a two-second grasp in order to feel safe," Gilchrist said.

Gilchrist said the presence of firearms on campus would not guarantee the safety

of students. Gilchrist said people with a gun without extensive training might not make a shooting situation any safer. She said if the bill were made law it would force faculty members and administrators throughout the state to sit down and re-examine safety protocols.

"I don't know that that is necessarily a bad thing, but it is a time where we're dealing with budget issues and doing our best to make ends meet," Gilchrist said. "Of course, it depends on what actually comes out of the legislature, if anything."

Gilchrist said a big issue that might arise is firearms in residence halls. Gilchrist said she also fears people will go out to get a gun simply because they think everyone else will.

"We deal with a lot of the mental health issues with our students," Gilchrist said. "We also know of the difficulties young people sometimes have with impulse control, especially when alcohol is involved. So we

wonder, what are guns going to add to this particular combination?"

Student Senate President junior JoEllen Flanagan said she became aware of the legislation when she recently attended the Missouri Higher Education Contortion, where the student governments from 13 public universities met. Flanagan said only five schools discussed the issue, but that the group came to the conclusion that they were against the legislation. Flanagan said she thinks it is the wrong direction for public universities to head in.

"I just don't see any good coming out of this if it is passed," Flanagan said.

Flanagan said she has not issued a formal statement or resolution in opposition, but she is considering it. Flanagan said the Faculty Senate is considering doing the same.

"It seems like this is just a bad idea from the student perspective, the administration and the faculty," Flanagan said. "It's just not a good idea."

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JoEllen Flanagan
Student Senate President

MAYOR | Rowe set to serve as Kirksville mayor for another two years

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the dynamic of the group.

He also said his main concern will be economic development.

"I think probably economic development is one of our biggest things right now — getting more jobs into the city, trying to attract new business and also trying to co-op and encourage local entrepreneurs," Kuhns said.

He said the council is looking into what benefits it can implement to attract new business to town. They also are working on a local preference policy that would give a competitive edge to local businesses.

Rodgerson declined to comment on his reasons for casting the dissenting votes against Rowe and Kuhns. He said he has no personal vendettas and will respect and honor Rowe as mayor.

ASHCROFT | Commencement speaker receiving honorary degree

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[changing the mission of the University], but I can't compartmentalize these things. I don't think anyone's going to say to him, 'You're only getting this for your role in changing the name.'"

Interim University President Darrell Krueger said he chose Ashcroft as the speaker. He said he decided on Ashcroft because he was traveling in Washington D.C., and one of the board members knew Ashcroft.

Krueger said Ashcroft, Carnahan, and McClain are receiving honorary degrees because of their roles in the history of the University.

"John Ashcroft signed the legislation that changed our mission to a liberal arts and science university," Krueger said. "In the history of this university, he will always be a prominent figure because of that change."

Krueger said there is a process for awarding an honorary degree. A faculty senate authorizes the Board of Governors to grants an honorary degree and also must confirm that they are supportive of the award, he said. He said the Board then appoints a committee, which has two faculty or staff members and three Board members on it. The Board of Governors makes its recommendations based on the committee's recommendation, he said.

Krueger said he would be surprised if there wasn't some disagreement about choosing Ashcroft as the commencement speaker.

"I'm not making any political statements," Krueger said.

Freshman Isaac Robinson, Student Senate Vice President, said Student Senate discussed Ashcroft's speech and honorary diploma in their meeting April 19. Robinson said some individuals' disagreement with Ashcroft's politics could cause concern.

"I think everybody's pretty much OK," Robinson said.

"While, yes, we disagree with some of his views, I think everyone's pretty much OK with his honorary degree."

Robinson said people seem to be excited to bring in a person with national name recognition.

Students have complained in the past that Truman has not had speakers who were controversial. He said Truman usually brings in recent alumni or past presidents to be commencement speakers.

"By bringing in Ashcroft, it was kind of trying to satisfy that need and that concern that students have voiced in the past," Robinson said. "Whether they disagree or agree with Ashcroft and his views, it's someone that they know."

Robinson said he thinks people need to keep in mind that Ashcroft is receiving this degree for his record as governor of Missouri, and not for his record as a senator or attorney general of the United States. During Ashcroft's tenure, Truman's funding increased.

"If we were giving him an honorary degree because of his record as attorney general, I could see some outrage," Robinson said. "He's receiving an honorary degree because he's been a friend of higher education and a friend of Truman."

Freshman Stuart Murray, a College Republicans member, said the group plans to have a presence at the AAUP Forum discussing whether he should receive an honorary degree.

"I'm supportive of it," Murray said. "I believe that as a former Missouri governor, and his critical role in making this Truman State University, I believe we should be able to honor him for that."

Murray said some of the controversy might arise from Ashcroft's stand on interrogation techniques used during his tenure at the Justice department.

"I think that if you disagree with his policies as attorney general, then you should maybe look at what he did as our governor and the positive benefits he brought to our state," Murray said.

"While, yes, we disagree with some of his views, I think everyone's pretty much OK with his honorary degree."

Isaac Robinson
Student Senate Vice President

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