



Mayank Dhungana/Index

Juniors Kyle Denk and Larissa Gribat study chemistry in one of Centennial Hall's lounges Wednesday evening. Student Senate passed a resolution this past Sunday that would keep residence halls open during week-long interims such as Thanksgiving Break in the fall and Midterm Break in the spring.

Senate approves housing resolution

BY KELSEY LANDHUIS
Managing Editor

On-campus students who want to spend even more time in the residence halls are one step closer to having that option.

Student Senate passed a resolution Sunday to provide on-campus housing for students during week-long breaks within the academic year, namely Thanksgiving Break in the fall and Midterm Break in the spring. But most of the specifics about how the resolution will be enacted remain unclear, and a lot of work remains before such a policy can be put in place.

John Gardner, assistant director of Residence Life, said Residence Life didn't have a formal response to the resolution because Senate hadn't officially presented it to the office yet.

He said that ultimately it will be Residence Life that makes the decisions about how to address the issue of on-campus housing during breaks.

"Whatever [Senate's] recommendations are, we'll take those into account, but I think we have to be sure that whatever their recommendations are, [they] fit with what we're able to do given our staff and given how our department operates," Gardner said.

Junior JoEllen Flanagan, chair of the student affairs committee, said she expects Residence Life to take the lead in enacting any housing policy changes, with Senate serving an oversight function.

"[Senate's role is] just vigilance," Flanagan said. "Just making sure, 'Are you doing this? Are you looking into this? You'd better be. We're watching.' Just more of that sort of attitude because we can't physically do it. We're not a University office. We're not Residence Life, and we recognize that."

Before the resolution was approved by Senate, it was a major subject of discussion at the Residence Hall Association meeting Feb. 5. Flanagan and Senate President senior Lizz Esfeld spent about 45 minutes taking questions about the resolution from RHA members.

RHA took an informal vote about whether to recommend that Senate strike the section of the document resolving that Residence Life provide on-campus housing for students during week-long breaks, and an overwhelming majority of RHA members were in favor of striking the lines.

"I felt like we got what we needed to get accomplished, which was basically to where we were comfortable with the resolution that

is before Student Senate," RHA President senior Susie Pope said.

Pope said RHA was comfortable with the resolution as long as the disputed lines were struck. But Senate rejected RHA's recommendation Sunday. Flanagan said removing the lines from the resolution would decrease its impact.

"The point of our resolutions are to say something, to be resolute, to be firm, and by taking that out ... there's not a lot to say," she said. "There's no point to have a resolution."

Flanagan said she isn't concerned about the logistical aspects of implementing a new housing policy.

"I think that this is going to be a really trial-and-error thing," she said. "I think the first time we do it, it's going to be kind of like, 'Let's just try this, and if it doesn't work, let's just not do it again,' or 'Next time, do it this way.' So I just think if you have that kind of pilot program attitude with it, then it'll be OK. I don't think everything needs to be addressed right away."

Gardner said an on-campus housing option likely would be available for the next Thanksgiving Break.

"We'll at least know what we can and can't do by [the fall of] 2009 for sure," he said.

Court of Appeals comes to campus

Five cases will be heard by three judges, students welcome

BY ANDREA HEWITT
Staff Reporter

Judge Judy, eat your heart out.

The Court of Appeals Western District will convene at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18 in the Activities Room of the Student Union Building. Presiding Judge James Smart, Judge Joseph Ellis and Judge James Welsh will review five cases.

The Western district encompasses 45 counties — approximately the western third of the state — said Terence G. Lord, the Clerk of the Court for the Missouri Western District.

Lord said the judges venture out of the courthouse nine or 10 times a year to different parts of the district. The court has been coming to Kirksville for about the past 15 years, and the last several years it has convened

at Truman rather than the Adair County Courthouse.

"[Associate Professor of Justice Systems Marty Jayne] thought it might be nice if the justice systems students could see how the appellate court works," Lord said. "So we decided to do it at Truman and cater it to the justice systems students. However, it is certainly open to all the students at Truman and anyone else who would like to come."

Most of the cases being reviewed are from Boone County because it is closer to Kirksville than to Kansas City, he said.

"We like to visit different ar-

reas of our territory ... because for a lot of people, it's a long way to Kansas City to come to court," Lord said.

The court takes place in alternative venues so that local residents can see how the court runs.

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Terence G. Lord
Western District Court
of Appeals Clerk

"[Many] people, whether they're a college student, high school students or regular folks, get their idea of what judges do from television," Lord said. "When we hold these sessions, we give people an opportunity to see how an appellate court works, specifically how it differs from a trial court."

This session is most benefi-

cial to potential law school students but students from several different majors attended the trials last year, Jayne said.

"Last year they had a case on a nurse who lost her license, and it was an appeal of that administrative decision," Jayne said. "That brought [many] nursing students."

The clerk tries to pick cases that would be interesting to students. The court has met here for the last three years and 30 to 40 students show up each year, he said.

Sophomore Sarah Backhaus said watching the appellate court in action will be benefit her specifically because she plans to attend law school.

"Most people are only familiar with trial law, and appellate is completely different," Backhaus said. "Appellate is only oral appeals, no arguments between sides or witnesses, just people telling why the decision made in their case was wrong."

NEWS | In Brief

Police make drug bust

James L. Scott, 43, and Lisa K. Scott, 41, of Kirksville were both arrested for possession of methamphetamine, a class D felony, Wednesday, Feb. 4. Kirksville Police officers were initially investigating an anonymous tip of narcotics activity at 411 E. Missouri. Upon further investigation, officers discovered methamphetamine, syringes and other paraphernalia. Police encourage anyone with information regarding narcotics or any other illegal activity to call 660-627-2878.

Lincoln bicentennial continues

A gala concert in honor of President Lincoln's bicentennial will take place at 8 p.m. Feb. 25 in the Ophelia Parish Performance Hall. Director of Bands Dan Peterson will conduct the Truman Wind Symphony and the performance will feature several guest performances. Following the concert, there will be a reception with refreshments provided. The concert is open to the public, and admission is free.

FACT accepting applications

The First Year Activities Coordinating Team is seeking students to help coordinate and plan Truman Week 2009. Coordinators are responsible for assisting in the move-in process, running FACT-sponsored events in the evenings and serving as mentors for the incoming freshmen. Applications are available in the Center for Student Involvement and are due by 5 p.m. Feb. 19. For more information, visit the CSI or e-mail program adviser Rachelle Williams at rwilliams@truman.edu or coordinator Courtney Perrachione at cjp133@truman.edu.

Study abroad opportunities available

Students have until March 1 to sign up for China 330 and China 530G, a two-week course being taught in Hong Kong and Shuizhai during the May 2009 Interim. Students will have the opportunity to interact with native teachers and students while in China. Students interested in more information should contact Dr. Janice Grow at jgrow@truman.edu.

A five-week study abroad program will be taking place in Beijing and Shanghai, China this summer. Students may participate without prior knowledge of Chinese. Language courses will be offered for all levels. Chinese literature, history and Chinese calligraphy also will be offered at Shanghai University for four weeks. Participating students will earn six to seven Truman credit hours. Students will spend the first week touring and will visit locations such as the Chinese capital, the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and sites used during the 2008 Summer Olympics. Students will gain knowledge of the language and culture and also will interact with Shanghai University students and with locals in their daily living routines. Interested students should contact Julie Minn at jminn@truman.edu.

Student Senate | In Brief

- Senate heard from Oskar's People, who proposed bringing exiled Russian singer The Oskar to Truman.

- Senate voted unanimously to approve the use of the Student Recreation Center by the football team for morning conditioning between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 7 a.m. until Spring Break.

- Senate passed a resolution to investigate options for students to stay in residence halls during week-long breaks.

- Senate passed a money motion in the amount of \$960 to fund Diversity Week.

- Senate passed a money motion in the amount of \$1,350 to fund Storm Capital.

DPS | Reports

2/9 A theft was reported in Pickler Memorial Library.

2/9 A theft was reported in Violette Hall

2/9 Vandalism was reported in Pickler Memorial Library.

2/6 A suspicious person was reported on the Quad. Tyson Higgins was arrested for Trespass.

2/3 A theft was reported in the Student Resource Center.

2/2 A theft was reported in the Student Union Building.

2/1 A bicycle was reported stolen outside Ryle Hall.

Detours Magazine

Enter the Detours Summer photo contest!

Winners will be published in our summer issue, and the grand prize winner will receive a lifetime subscription to our award-winning publication.

The theme is 'Go Green', and you can interpret it in any way you like — anyone is eligible to enter, so send us your photos!

Entries must be sent to detours.photo@gmail.com
The deadline for submission is Monday, February 16

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