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TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
**INDEX**

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# DIXON RESIGNS

President announces Oct. 15 resignation, interim search begins

BY CAITLIN DEAN  
Assistant News Editor

University President Barbara Dixon will step down from her position effective Oct. 15.

Her resignation, announced in a Tuesday morning press release, follows a three month discussion between Dixon and Truman's Board of Governors "regarding the goals and expectations for the future," according to the press release. Dixon said she has considered resigning for about a month.

Dixon's three-year contract was scheduled to go up for renewal June 30, 2009, but she said she asked to be released from it. The conversations leading to her resignation occurred in closed sessions of the Board and have no written record, she said.

"The results of the personnel actions that take place within the closed Board meetings are made public and so the public announcement is, 'I have resigned,'" Dixon said.

Dixon said she will not part from the Board on bad terms.

"This is not a terribly acrimonious kind of thing, but we've kind of come to the conclusion that we need to agree to disagree," she said.

Dixon said she understands the disruption her resignation will cause and that these sorts of transitions usually occur during the summer. The decision to leave was a difficult one, she said, but any such decision would be, such as when she left her position as provost and vice president for academic affairs at the State University of New York at Geneseo to come to Truman.

"I really liked what I was doing there," Dixon said. "But I had another opportunity. But that didn't make resigning and leaving a place that I really loved any less difficult. It just meant there is more — life after, a new chapter."

Dixon said she did not come to Truman with any specific goals for what she wanted to do but that she and the Board of Governors have many joint projects that have been completed or have plans for completion. These goals, projects and accomplishments include Truman's comprehensive capital campaign, the hiring of a new vice president, changes to the make-up of the foundation board, campus building projects, stabilization of enrollment, the reorganization

**"We've kind of come to the conclusion that we need to agree to disagree."**

**- University President Barbara Dixon**

of departments and the creation of a staff council.

"It's really important to remember that presidents don't do any of this by themselves," she said. "Presidents may kind of lead the way, but if you don't have a great staff, and if you don't have great people doing the work along with you, you don't get anything done."

A frequent criticism of Dixon is that she doesn't spend enough time with students during campus events. But Dixon said students are at the top of her list of what she will miss when she leaves Truman.

"One of the nicest things about being a president is that it put me back in touch more with the students," she said. "It's been one of the more enjoyable aspects of my job."

Dixon said she came to Truman expecting this to be her last full-time job in higher education, and she does not anticipate that changing. She said she plans to move back to her home in Michigan after leaving Truman.

"For the first time in 40 years I don't have any plans," she said. "I've been in education for 40 years, and I don't have to work if I don't want to anymore, so I'm really not sure what I'm going to do. Possibly take a good vacation, take some time to consider some other opportunities."

Provost Troy Paino said he came to the University July 1 anticipating

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File Photo

"I never say never, but that's not in my immediate plans to seek another presidency," Dixon said. "I still think the same way I did when I came here in that this will be my last full-time job in higher education."

## The Dixon File

**Fall 2005: Capital Campaign**

While the campaign, which has helped with project funding, remains incomplete at this time, Dixon said it is a five-year plan and all the pieces are in place.

**April 2005: West Campus Suites**

West Campus Suites was the first new residence hall built in 39 years.

**Summer 2006 : Dorm Renovations**

Missouri Hall's \$14.8 million renovation began a residence hall renovation project scheduled for completion in 2013.

**Fall 2007: Stadium Lights**

The student athletic fee covered the cost of the entire project.

**Spring 2007: Academic Reorganization**

The Ad-hoc Committee on Academic Reorganization and Dixon's own vision led to the changes, which restructured the University's academic system.

**Summer 2008: Field Turf**

The 2006 athletic fee made the new field possible.

## University community reacts to President's resignation

BY JULIE WILLIAMS  
Editor in Chief

Shockwaves reverberated from Franklin Street to Facebook Tuesday morning following the announcement of University President Barbara Dixon's resignation.

In a joint press release issued by Dixon and the Board of Governors, Dixon cited disagreements about Truman's future as the catalyst for three months of discussion with the Board of Governors that eventually led to her decision to step down. The Board also announced its intention to search for an interim president as a larger selection process gets underway for a more per-

manent resident of McClain Hall's second floor.

**"That mission is bigger than any one of us"**

Despite impending new leadership, Faculty Senate President James Guffey said there is no reason to expect a major shake-up at the University, particularly where academic reorganization — one of the major changes during Dixon's term — is concerned.

"We're still working on implementing a lot of parts of the reorganization, so this would not be the juncture to say, 'Let's go back,'" he said. "We're too far into the strain to do that."

Guffey said he does not know any details of the conversations that led to

Dixon's eventual resignation because the faculty does not have a presence on the Board of Governors and also because those conversations took place in closed session.

"It's clear that there were a lot of negotiations going on with the kind of quotes that we see, ... so that tells me that they were working to find a way to map out the future of the institution as best as possible," Guffey said.

With Faculty Senate focusing on promotion and tenure, a professor rating system and its own upcoming reorganization, Guffey said the most important thing to do is keep moving forward to provide stability for an interim president. He said it's

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**President's Performance**

The Editorial Board weighs in on Dixon's resignation



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**Water Hike**

Local residents can expect stricter water bill policies



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**Alternative Exercises**

Students turn to yoga, and atypical styles of dance for workout



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WEATHER

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
High 77 Low 57	High 77 Low 57	High 78 Low 55