

Pershing renovations continue

Project remains on schedule to be finished by spring 2011

BY MAXIMILIAN ERNST
Staff Reporter

With state funding cut in half and an early start in January, Pershing Building renovation construction workers are fighting to meet deadlines.

The varsity swimming teams use the natatorium in the morning before construction begins, but it's closed to other students. It is scheduled to reopen as early as next semester. Meanwhile, a current failure of heating systems requires a change to the plans. River City Construction, which also built West Campus Suites and renovated Missouri Hall, will work through the summer to complete the project by spring 2011.

Truman campus planner Mark Schultz said the project was scheduled to start this summer but had to start early as a requirement to fit into the budget.

"That created some schedule issues and some work sequence issues, which we are still fighting," he said.

Schultz said the digging for the foundation of the new building, which will be next to the existing Pershing Hall, proved to be very difficult because the winter was exceptionally cold, and the ground was almost always frozen and covered in snow.

"We therefore tried to push forward the interior work, main-

ly from the center stairs south," Schultz said.

After the state cut the budget for the renovations from \$21.4 million to \$10 million, the plans were altered to renovate only the southern half of Pershing and leave the northern wing for renovation at a later date. This proved difficult, however, because the heating system of the northern wing broke during the winter.

"We are currently investigating the possibilities to hook the new heating plant and air conditioning for the south wing up to the northern part as well, instead of replacing the damaged heating system there," Schultz said.

Contingency funds currently are being used to deal with problems, like the failing heater, that arose during the course of the project. Schultz said he is trying to make the northern part benefit from as many renovations as possible. The company raised the curb height around the window wells and plans to build a new storm sewer to reduce flooding. At the same time, he does not know when he will get the money to renovate it completely. He said he estimates that by splitting the renovation into two parts, the project will be about 20 percent more expensive.

Another plan by Schultz involves connecting all the water chillers into one big chilled water cycle around campus. This would enable the University to run one cooler at full capacity and switch the others off in times of low demand. Schultz



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index
Construction on the southern wing of Pershing Building progresses, with some areas to open as soon as next semester.

said this would be much more efficient than running three machines on very low power.

"This summer, we have to finish the natatorium and all the basement there, as well as the trenches for the chilled water cycle," said Joey Gerbes, project manager for River City Construction. "We are also finally catching up on the foundation of the new building, since finally we have decent temperatures."

Construction workers are now pouring the foundations. Gerbes said they poured 1,000 cubic yards of concrete already, leaving 500 cubic yards still to pour and a week to dry. The next challenge will be to clean up the site for graduation so the stu-

dents can walk through to the stadium. After that, the workers will dig trenches while students are gone for summer break.

However, it will not be until spring 2011 that all the Truman athletics coaches can return to their newly renovated offices, and the new wing will be fully usable.

"The office I have to move to within the next week is just as good as this one," swimming head coach Mark Gole said. "I can only say that I think we will all benefit greatly from the renovation."

Most coaches have been relocated to Grim-Smith Hall, while others will go to offices in the northern wing of Pershing.

NEWS | In Brief

Police arrest two juveniles for fires

The Kirksville Police arrested two juveniles April 4 in connection with two vacant house fires the day before, according to a press release. The Kirksville Police and Fire Departments responded to a call about a building fire April 3 at 1611 S. Boundary St. A joint investigation conducted by the fire department, police department and Missouri State Fire Marshal's Office determined the home was intentionally damaged. That evening the Kirksville fire and police departments responded to a fire at 703 W. Friedman St. and also determined it to be intentionally started.

Justin Jones, Kirksville Police Department detective, said he took two juveniles into custody before turning them over to the Adair County Juvenile Office. The case still is under investigation and more arrests might be pending.

Kuhns takes over as Kirksville Mayor

Members of the Kirksville City Council elected councilman Todd Kuhns mayor in a unanimous vote at their meeting Monday night. Todd Kuhns was sworn in as mayor and replaces Martha Rowe, who, Kuhns said, expressed a wish to step down from the position. Rowe will continue to serve on the council until her term ends next year.

The five city council members also unanimously voted for councilman Richard Detweiler to serve as mayor pro tem.

Kuhns said that because Kirksville uses a city-manager form of government in which the council hires a manager to run the city, his duties will not change much. He will run city council meetings and represent the city at events.

"I'm very honored and humbled to be able to serve the city in this way," Kuhns said.

MO Hall sponsors student art show

Missouri Hall Senate will sponsor the third annual Missouri Hall Art Gala during dinner Monday in the Missouri Hall Chariton Room. The gala will showcase Truman artists, and guests can vote for their favorite pieces. Three winners will receive \$100, and their work will be permanently displayed inside the residence hall. Submission forms for artists are available on the Missouri Hall Web site and are due in the Missouri Hall office by Friday.

Cianciola receives Educator of Year

James Cianciola, assistant professor of communication, received the Educator of the Year Award at the banquet April 6. Students nominate professors for Educator of the Year. Nominees then submit an essay and syllabus to the selection committee. Other finalists included Paul Yoder, assistant professor of English education, Joe Benevento, professor of English, Eric Patterson, associate professor of Chemistry, and Jeanne Mitchell, instructor of biology.

Senate proposes changes

Document outlines ideas to improve University, includes sustainability and wet events

BY BAILLIE JAMES
Staff Reporter

The Board of Governors showed enthusiasm about Student Senate's new vision document at a meeting April 10.

In the document "Beyond the Horizon," Senate made recommendations to the administration about changes it thinks Truman should implement in the next five years.

Lizz Esfeld, chair of the Student Vision Document Committee, said she and other students on the committee are seniors and have witnessed how Truman's challenges have changed since the last vision document was published in 2006. The ad hoc committee identified budget constraints, demographics, Kirksville's location and environmental sustainability as the four most pressing concerns for Truman after talking to administrators and students.

"Everything that we recommend in the document in terms of impacting the students is a thing that we think are important to students," Esfeld said. "While they may not realize that it's this vision document that made the changes for them, I hope students would appreciate the changes that are going to happen because of it in the next five years."

Esfeld said Senate has distributed copies of the document to administrators and the Board of Governors, and many administrators have begun integrating Senate's recommendations already. Regina Morin, vice president of enrollment management, said

other proposals might not be fiscally possible within the five-year constraint, such as the push to equip all classrooms with a lecture capture system, the proposal to install the perimeter access system on all doors of residence halls and the idea to keep the library open 24 hours per day.

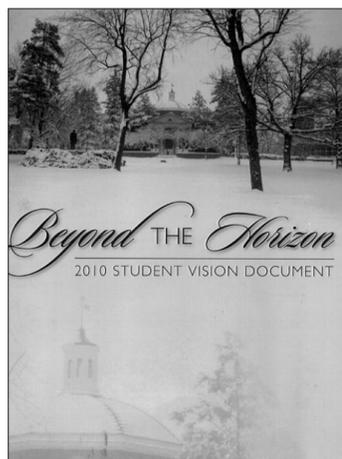
Cody Sumter, student representative to the Board of Governors, said some recommendations, especially those concerning technology, could go out of date quickly. Despite this, he said the document can be used to direct Truman and help it focus on the 25 pages of recommendations that Senate prioritized.

"It may not hit every single point you could possibly do, but it does a very good job of painting a picture of where Student Senate believes we should be in five years," Sumter said.

Truman's Office of Admission in particular already has taken Senate's recommendations to heart. Morin said her office has begun implementing a new way of utilizing ambassadors. This change would connect ambassadors with prospective students based on interest profiles and would strive to maintain connections at Truman students' high schools to attract potential students. The document also recommends that international students be used as ambassadors in their native countries.

Morin supports all these suggestions and said she thinks students had to be thoughtful when making recommendations because of the University's budget constraints. She said all the proposals are important, but the University will have to select which aspects to address first to maintain the Truman experience.

"What I admire most is the spirit of, 'How can we do this better?'" Morin said.



"Some things may not be realistic at all, but some things may be able to be done down the road."

Morin said Senate's recommendation for the Office of Admission to use the Internet to attract prospective students and diminish paper advertisements will not be completely possible in the five-year time period. Morin said Truman can work toward this goal, and she admires students' optimism in looking toward the future.

This vision document is the first to address environmental sustainability recommendations in a separate section. Esfeld said other recommendations in the document would take extensive time and deliberation to implement, such as a Safe Rides program and the possibility of limited wet events on campus.

Student Senate | In Brief

- Student Senate passed a resolution to support changing the Liberal Studies Program requirements to completing three out of four classes in two categories.
- Student Senate passed a money motion in the amount of \$75 for election posters.
- Student Senate passed a resolution in support of creating a Queer Resource Center.
- Student Senate passed a resolution supporting Red Flag, a sexual assault awareness program.
- Student Senate passed a resolution supporting fixing the bricks on the fountain on the mall.
- Student Senate passed a money motion in the amount of \$450 to send Residence Hall Association delegates to a national conference.
- Student Senate passed a resolution supporting students to be able to charge the cost of their textbooks to their student account.

CRIME | Reports

- 3/28 Freshman Gregory Taplin received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for Minor in Possession of Intoxicants.
- 3/28 Sophomore Katlyn Caddell received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for Minor in Possession of Intoxicants.
- 3/28 Sophomore Sean Daggendorf received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for Minor in Possession of Intoxicants.

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