

Library plans coffee shop

BY BAILLIE JAMES
Staff Reporter

By next fall, if students want to drink coffee while they study in the library, they will no longer have to sneak drinks past library workers.

The Parents Council for Truman chose to fund the library café as this year's project. A small committee already has finalized details including flooring, seating, color schemes and a basic layout of the café in conjunction with the Campus Planners Office.

The committee is composed of the dean of libraries and museums Richard Coughlin, a Sodexo representative, two student representatives and library staff members. Committee member Peter Johnson said the planning stage will end by late March or April, and construction should start this summer.

The café will be where browsing books, copy machines and a conference room are now. The café will feature about 57 seats for both individuals and areas for students to study in small groups.

Sodexo will run the new café, which will be similar to Jazzman's. Specific hours and drink choices have not yet been finalized, but Coughlin, said students are interested in a café open during evening hours, especially Sunday nights. He said he will work with Dennis Markeson, the director of dining services, to best accommodate students' recommendations.

"We want to create some nice spaces to accommodate students," Coughlin said. "A café is one way to do it. When I was a student, I never had a group assignment as an undergraduate ... but students now do have group projects, group presentations."

Coughlin said this change in learning style is a major reason for library restructuring.

Coughlin said the area the



Krista Goodman/ Index

This summer, a Jazzman's-style café will go in the library.

committee selected is currently under utilized, and library officials have been meaning to renovate the area for a while. Coughlin submitted the café proposal to the Parents Council last year as well, but the Council chose to fund improvements in classroom technology in lieu of the café.

Robyn Kollar, the annual fund manager in the Advancement Office, said the wide appeal of this project has led to a 26 percent increase in the amount of gifts given this year. The efforts of Tel-Alumni collected \$46,000 from alumni and upperclassman parents as of Jan. 31. The total project costs \$75,000.

Kollar said students who work for Tel-Alumni seem so excited when they talk on the phone to ask for donations. She thinks this has contributed greatly to the increase in donations.

In addition to the café, Richard Coughlin's office is in the planning stage for additional library renovations. The Student Technology Improvement Committee submitted sug-

gestions for layout changes to Coughlin last spring.

Coughlin said one possible change includes moving the main computer lab to the first floor and moving first-floor print materials to the third floor or to storage. If this happens, they would try to consolidate Information Technology Services and the research librarians at the same desk on the first floor. Coughlin hopes this would cut costs in staffing.

"It's sort of one-stop shopping for help," Coughlin said. "One thing we want to achieve is greater convenience, less cost and hopefully a better level of service."

Coughlin said these changes are still in the discussion stage, and that he did not know how much these proposals would cost.

Library staff presented these possible layout changes at the Faculty Development Lunch Wednesday to get faculty feedback. The next step for Coughlin will be to talk to the Provost about layout changes.

Poverty simulation hits Truman campus

BY ELIZABETH KOCH
Staff Reporter

Leaving for a day of work early each morning to support a father who can't take care of himself or a pregnant 16-year-old daughter isn't easy. Then coming home to find an endless stack of bills, an eviction notice or a burglarized house is just the icing on the cake.

Truman students got to experience those feelings Monday at the poverty simulation hosted by Students for Social Change.

The simulation lasted for an hour, which was divided into 15-minute "weeks." The participants were divided into families and had to try to survive each week in less than ideal situations.

Junior Kathrine Olsen Flaate, president of Students for Social Change, said the idea to host the poverty simulation was inspired by the simulation that was hosted last year. The main task Students for Social Change had in preparation for the event this year was to provide at least 20 volunteers.

"I think the [simulation] gives you a unique perspective on life and also a better understanding of the complexity of society," Olsen Flaate said.

Olsen Flaate said it was a good experience for Truman because there are at least seven homeless people in Kirksville, and about one-third of Kirksville residents are considered to be living below the

poverty line. Olsen Flaate said the event went well, with an overwhelming amount of volunteers and a decent turnout of participants.

Students for Social Change wants to help students become aware of what is happening in society, so they can play their own role to help others.

Junior Julie Albsmeyer heard about the poverty simulation from one of her friends.

"I thought it would give me some insight into what real life is like," she said. "And this [financial situation] is not a whole lot of fun."

Albsmeyer said she didn't realize how chaotic her situation would be, having a limited amount of time to complete

tasks that, if not completed, would have negative effects the next week.

"It's like robbing Peter to pay Paul," she said. "You pay something, and then you regret it because you have this to pay and just — it's really, really hectic to try to cover all your bases."

Albsmeyer said the simulation affected her because she didn't realize how many unexpected events could occur to cause financial struggle at the drop of a hat.

She said students should consider attending similar events because it would help make them better-rounded people and would make them appreciate what they have.

"We were all born ridiculously lucky," she said. "We all got to go to college, and a

lot of people don't even have that opportunity."

Albsmeyer said the simulation was relatable because it's not uncommon for college students to graduate with student loans and end up in debt, which could lead to poverty. Some college students also could relate to the scenario of having a child soon after graduation and not having enough money to fully support it. Albsmeyer said if college students don't have any financial needs themselves, the option to donate money is always open.

Cindy Higgins, area contact manager for the Northeast Missouri Community Action Agency, helped run the poverty simulation. Higgins facilitated the simulations last year as well.

"We want the [Kirksville community] to realize our day-to-day realities," she said.

Higgins said she was pleased with the outcome of Truman's simulation and the debriefing session that followed.

"We want the [Kirksville community] to realize our day-to-day realities," she said.

The NMCAA in Kirksville helps with utility bills and rent or mortgage assistance, along with providing leadership, budgeting and life-skill classes.

Higgins said the economy has had the biggest impact on poverty in Kirksville, and the recent closings of some businesses in Kirksville has caused people to lose their jobs.

Benefits the NMCAA has seen since hosting the simulations at schools in the five counties they represent include extra volunteers and people taking action by writing letters to congressmen.

For more information about poverty simulations, contact Higgins at higgins@nmcaa.org.

Doctors plan to open new family health facility

BY TAWANDA KANHEMA
Staff Reporter

Complete Family Medicine, one of Kirksville's major private family health care service providers, is set for a \$2.5 million upgrade that is expected to triple its current capacity and cut down on waiting periods for patients.

Dr. Justin Puckett and his counterpart Dr. Wes Ryle, a Truman alumnus currently based at Fort Leonard Wood, are at an advanced stage of planning for the new Complete Family Medicine center, which is expected to open in October 2010.

The current Complete Family Medicine building on Crown Drive handles an average of 35 patients each day, and Puckett said the new center would serve an average of 100 patients per day and cut down on the amount of time patients have to wait before seeing a doctor.

"The way we envision the new center is to provide care that is based on knowing the patient's history,"

Puckett said. "We want to get to the bottom of health issues by knowing both the social and medical history of our patients."

Puckett currently provides care to a number of families in Kirksville and works with local institutions including nursing homes, school districts and the Hospice of Northeast Missouri.

"Currently, we schedule out for two weeks to a month," Puckett said. "But we know that people want to see the doctor when they are sick and not just when the doctor is available, so we want to provide enough spots in a day for people to be seen."

The new center will be supported by state-of-the-art technology that allows patients to make online bookings and build electronic medical records to facilitate more comprehensive care, he said.

Complete Family Medicine, established in Kirksville in July 2009, currently employs nine people, and will relocate to a new location pending the completion of its new establish-

ment which Puckett said will employ 35 people.

"We want to improve our capacity to provide preventative care and wellness examinations, as well as making provisions for group visits, more support for education and the use of hi-tech equipment," Puckett said.

Complete Family Medicine supports some of Northeast Regional Medical Center's residency programs as well as students from A.T. Still University.

Bob Moore, the chief executive officer of Northeast Regional Medical Center, said the center would benefit from the expansion.

"We are very pleased to see Complete Family Medicine expanding, because that helps our hospital and also helps our community," Moore said. "Its an excellent way to bring people into the area."

Puckett also did his residency program at Northeast Regional Medical Center. He said he realized upon graduation that Kirksville was an



Mayank Dhungana/ Index

A \$2.5 million upgrade is planned for Complete Family Medicine.

ideal location to establish a primary care center.

"He was one of our 32 residents and did family medicine," Moore said. "We are fortunate to have access to the students that come and do residency programs, and it is good that some of them stay in the community and help."

Sandra Williams, executive di-

rector of the Kirksville Chamber of Commerce, said the expansion would add much-needed job opportunities to Kirksville.

"Its great that [Complete Family Medicine is] going to be able to expand," Williams said. "Kirksville is a great community, and anyone investing here is making a good decision."

We all know
at least one ...

Unsung Hero.

Nominate someone you know who helps our community grow and prosper through their civic, professional, and/or volunteer endeavors.

Online nomination form: www.atsu.edu/spirit
Deadline: March 19, 2010

Nominees will be honored at ATSU's Still Spirit Awards Dinner and Ceremony on April 15.

Call 660.626.2272 for additional information.

A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY | ATSU



Video Producer Wanted

The Joseph Baldwin Academy is currently taking applications for the position of Video Producer. The Academy's Video Producer is responsible for recording the activities of the Academy's June and July sessions and for producing two 90-minute DVDs and two short preview programs.

Experience in video production and editing required. Candidates for the position will be asked to provide a sample of previous video work produced.

JBA is in session June 5-26, and July 10-31. The successful applicant will receive room and board and will be expected to reside in Centennial Hall with the students and staff. Accommodations between sessions are available. Students may not be enrolled in classes during employment.

To inquire about the position, please contact Jana Morton at 660-785-5406 or e-mail jmorton@truman.edu.

Review of applications will begin March 15 and will continue until the position is filled.

