

Kirksville R-III pledges funds for ATSU

BY PHILIP ZAHND
Staff Reporter

The Kirksville R-III School District signed a memorandum of understanding with A.T. Still University. If the new dental school comes to Kirksville, the school district will pursue \$175,000 in grants to help fund the potential dental school in exchange for the use of the University's dental labs and facilities.

Superintendent Pat Williams said this would enable the school district to start a pre-dental program for high school students, which is similar to a health occupation program.

Williams said the \$175,000 will come from a 75-25 match enhancement grant — a type of grant used to buy equipment for vocational programs. For this grant, the state would provide 75 percent of the funding while the school district pays the remaining 25 percent. Williams said the grant is "fairly certain" according to state officials. The school would pay approximately \$15,000 per year toward the three year pledge. The district maintains a yearly budget of approximately \$60,000 for enhancement grant matches.

"I am very excited about that opportunity because it sounds like they will develop an additional program for dental assistance training if the dental school does become a reality," said Renae Brayton, co-chair of Community Friends for ATSU Dental, a campaign that has raised more than \$1 million in local donations in support of the dental

school coming to Kirksville.

She said that the school district did not seek local donations for the funding to A.T. Still. The school district was in direct communication with A.T. Still President Jack Magruder for the enhancement grant.

"These kind of partnerships are not uncommon and the beauty in them is that they allow partnering institutions to pool their resources to do more together than they would ever be able to do, or it would be impossible to do on their own," Williams said.

The pre-dental program is designed for high school juniors and seniors who plan to become dental hygienists, Representative Zachary Wyatt (R-District 2) said. Those in the program would be in close proximity to the students and instructors of the dental school.

"It can make things possible for our students and expand our programming," Williams said. "Dental assistance right now in the state of Missouri is considered a high-demand occupation. We would be one of the few training facilities in the region."

Wyatt said Missouri is ranked 47th in going to the dentist — a major problem that needs to be addressed. He said Missouri has a serious lack of dentists, especially in rural areas.

"We need to get our numbers up for dentistry in getting people served in the unfortunate areas like Louis County over to the east of us who doesn't even have a dentist," Wyatt said. "We need to make sure the rural areas are going to have dentists to be able



Krista Goodman/Index
A.T. Still will announce Thursday morning in a press conference whether the dental school will open in Kirksville. The Kirksville School District will pursue \$175,000 in grants to fund the school.

to serve their population."

The school district currently has similar arrangements with two other local institutions, Williams said. The school district helps finance the Adair County Ambulance District in exchange for the use of facilities for the school's EMT training program. The school also has an arrangement with Moberly Area Community College in which the school provides the facilities and the college purchases equipment for a nursing program.

Since 2005, the school district has spent \$25 million in bond money "for the purposes of expanding science and technology facilities, our early childhood facility, and renovating the

career and vocational school," Williams said. Part of these renovations enabled the school district to begin partnering with Moberly. Williams said the \$175,000 enhancement grant would be far less than these renovations in comparison. He said he thinks maintaining a pledge with the recent budget cuts will not put the school district in financial risk. He said enhancement grants have been able to avoid any budget reductions.

"In other words, we try to budget some every year that can be put aside to make us eligible for our grants," Williams said. "If it were to be a detriment to our overall budget picture, we wouldn't be doing it."

CSI freezes chartering process

BY REBECCA SMITH
Staff Reporter

The Center for Student Involvement has placed a freeze on the chartering process for new student organizations.

This freeze was put into effect at the end of last semester and will last until Fall 2011 so the Organizational service team can research and reexamine the chartering process to help organizations become more successful and better distribute limited funds to student groups.

"The purpose is to look at how we can best utilize organizations on campus and how the chartering process can ensure the success of future organizations," Student Senate President Isaac Robinson said.

Laura Bates, the director of student involvement and campus activities, said Truman currently has approximately 250 organizations and adds an average of 30 each year.

After some initial research, Bates said that they discovered there are campuses three times Truman's size with half as many organizations.

Budget also is a concern, as the Funds Allotment Council received five or six times the amount of requests for funding from student groups as they actually can fund, Bates said.

Bates said this reexamination will

better allow them to see how the CSI can be most helpful with limited resources, such as staff and money.

Organizational Services manager Brad Dunlap said his team of four members currently is conducting research to find ways to improve the chartering process.

"We are in the bulk of our research," Dunlap said. "We have reached out to most public schools in Missouri and are looking at their processes, the number of students versus the number of organizations and the requirements for the organizations."

The new chartering process will incorporate elements into the current system that have been successful at other institutions, Dunlap said.

Bates said this freeze is important because it gives the CSI the chance to be brought up to the times and become more effective for students and as an office.

Looking at the big issues, such as organization sustainability, the University's connection to the organizations and their things like risk management and also things like risk management are important to this examination of the process, Bates said.

"We are trying to make it so organizations can be successful on campus," Bates said. "We want a more detailed process that will lay foundations so they

are sustainable and can sustain membership from year to year."

There is no new timeline set for the updated charter process, but Bates said she wants to be sure the time frame is adequate to ensure success as in

Bates said the revoking of current charters is not what this reexamination is intended to do.

"We may ask people to add updates to their constitutions, such as a risk management policy," Bates said.

There were organizations that were in the process of chartering when the charter freeze began, Bates said.

"It was a difficult decision," Bates said. "We communicated with all of the potential organizations and made personal calls to those who were impacted."

Robinson said he has not encountered any negative reactions to the freeze.

Once people understand the reasoning behind the freeze they are much more understanding, Bates said.

For those who are in the process of chartering or interested in becoming a chartered student organization, Bates said she suggests they work on a constitution for their organization and try to find an adviser so they are prepared when the update on the process is sent out at the end of the semester.

Dunlap said the organizational services team has a goal of being able to begin the newly updated chartering process in the fall semester.

"We still plan to enhance the student experience by giving them the opportunity to form organizations," Bates said. "That is not going to change, we just want to do it smarter."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Truman hosts history competition

The history department is hosting a National History Day Competition starting 9:30 a.m. Saturday in Violette Hall. The competition is similar in format to a science fair and will feature historical projects of middle school students in Northeast Missouri. Truman faculty and students will serve as judges and volunteers. The winners of the competition qualify for the state contest in April.

Court of Appeals convenes in Kirksville

The Western District of the Missouri Court of Appeals will make its annual visit to Kirksville today. The three-judge panel is comprised of Cynthia Martin, James Welsh and Gary Witt. The court will hear oral arguments for four cases at the Adair County Courthouse starting at 9 a.m. If a party loses in the circuit court and thinks a mistake was made, that party can file an appeal with the Court of Appeals. After each party presents an oral argument to the judges, the panel decides whether a mistake was made in the circuit court. The public may attend.

Non-profits seek interested students

As a part of Career Week, information will be available to students interested in working for non-profit organizations. Events will take place between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. today in the Student Union Building. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. there will be a non-profit poster display in the SUB Hub. A keynote speaker will give a presentation titled "Using your Truman Degree in the Non-Profit Sector" from 4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. in SUB Georgian Room A. Students must be nominated by a faculty or staff member to attend a "Meet the Alumni Dinner from 5:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. in SUB Georgian Rooms B and C. Nominations can be submitted to lkerlin@truman.edu. A Peace Corp information session will be from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in SUB Georgian Room A.

STUDENT SENATE IN BRIEF

Student Senate passed a motion 7-6-4 to sanctioning Senator Michael Dijk for violating the student government ethical code of conduct in regards to two money motions Dijk sponsored to create two promotional videos for Senate within the last month. Senate received an official complaint from an anonymous student accusing Dijk of violating the code of conduct because Dijk did not disclose the fact that he is the external productions manager for News 36 and therefore stood to financially benefit from the video production. The letter also said Dijk did not give fair consideration to other production companies other than News 36.

During the meeting Dijk said that he did not disclose the information because he thought most senators knew his relationship with News 36, and that he never intended to accept payment from News 36 for producing the Senate videos. He said the money motions did not specify that News 36 would be the production company. Because the motion passed, Dijk was required to make a public apology at the meeting. Dijk said he will consider other producers, and Senate will appoint an intermediary between Dijk and the production of the video to minimize conflict of interest.

CRIME REPORTS DPS & KPD

2/10 A theft between \$500 and \$25,000 was reported from Magruder Hall.

2/11 A rape was reported from Centennial Hall. (see story page 1).

2/13 Freshman Daniel Jack received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for Minor in Possession of Alcohol.

BONZAI STEAK, TERIYAKI & SUSHI HOUSE

112 WEST HARRISON STREET
KIRKSVILLE, MO 63501
660.665.3616
NORTH SIDE OF THE SQUARE

TUESDAY - THURSDAY SPECIALS

10% OFF FOR STUDENTS W/ID
\$1.75 DOMESTIC BEER
\$2 SAKE (HOT OR COLD)
\$0.75 SAKETINI

WWW.TRUMANRENTALS.COM

Providing affordable student housing for more than 24 years.

Boardwalk • Waterworks • Park Place • States Avenue • St. James Place • New York Avenue

Four Horizons Realty
703 N. Marion St.
Kirksville, MO 63501

660-665-RENT
www.4horizonsrealty.com