

## Board of Governors student representative candidates

“If you could accomplish only one thing during your term as student representative, what would that be?”



**MICHAEL BUSHUR**

**Year:** junior

**Major:** psychology and economics

**Minor:** public administration

**Political affiliation:** Democrat

**Truman involvement:** University Conduct Board, FAC regulations chair and Phi Sigma Pi honor fraternity

“[I want] to continue to improve the caliber of education at Truman and to exploring new options. Recently their expense has been the master’s program. Hopefully improving the undergrad and master’s programs can continue to track high-quality students, which will improve the University overall.”



**ANNA ELZEIN**

**Year:** sophomore

**Major:** international business

**Political affiliation:** undecided

**Truman involvement:** Ryle Hall student adviser, Student Activities Board, Students In Free Enterprise project leader and Campus Christian Fellowship

“I want to make sure that students know they have a say in major decisions on campus. The Board of Governors care enough about the students to have this position available for their input. I think even just a goal like that would be great to accomplish because it would make a difference. I think more opinions would be heard. The University could be shaped more how students want it to be.”



**ALEX EICHSTADT**

**Year:** junior

**Majors:** political science and economics

**Minors:** math and philosophy

**Political affiliation:** moderate

**Truman involvement:** Forensics and Debate Squad, Spanish Club, Pershing Society, Pre-Law Club, College Democrats and College Republicans

“What’s most important to me is ensuring a quality education that is affordable, practical and enjoyable to the students — focusing on the academics reputation and the cost of those academic resources is most important. If I had to pick an issue, I would say making Truman more affordable and improving those standards.”

## LIST | Student Senate passes the revised three-person Board of Governors slate to send to the state capitol for approval

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Freeland said he think the first slate didn’t pass in November because senators were notified about the candidates only 20 hours before the meeting.

Because of Thanksgiving Break, Senate didn’t meet again until Dec. 4 when the second slate passed.

The second slate consisted of the same

candidates except for sophomore Anna Elzein, who replaced Salmon.

Freeland said the slate passed without much controversy because Senate had more than three weeks to consider the candidates. He said the fact that Salmon was replaced by Elzein had little, if any, effect on the slate passing.

“I think we have three very intelligent

people that have a very comprehensive accumulation of what Truman State is,” Freeland said. “I think that they are a very accomplished group of students in that they have each been involved in multiple organizations that give them a depth of understanding of what it means to be a Truman student.”

Freeland said the candidates’ next step is to fill out an application and send a resumé to

Boards and Commissions in Gov. Jay Nixon’s office.

Although Freeland’s term officially expires Jan. 1, 2012, he said the selection process in Jefferson City might take longer than that.

The Boards and Commissions Office will interview the candidates and will recommend one student to Nixon, who will make the final decision.

## SEATS | Two seats on the Board of Governors are due for reappointment by the governor’s office are likely to be overdue

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secretary Scott Holste said. As of this week, Nixon’s office does not have a timetable set for the appointment process. He said the top priority for the governor’s office is to make sure the Board is running smoothly with the required number of members.

Candidates can apply to be a governor or be recommended by someone else. Holste said he does not know if anyone has applied for the job or whether there currently is a pool of candidates for consideration.

Until then, current Board members stay seated until Nixon and the Senate approve new members, said Traci Hill, executive assistant to the president and the on-campus contact for the Board.

Hill said that because the governor’s office is busy, sometimes appointments take a while. For this round, the University hasn’t heard from the governor’s office regarding the status of membership appointments.

“We assume that the individuals will continue to serve until an appointment is made,” she said.

During the past, some have stayed seated for years.

Board member Wilma Maddox served for three years after her term expired Jan. 1, 2005 until her replacement Mike Greenwell was appointed during March 2008, Hill said.

“We really appreciated her doing that,” she said.

Both Siscel and Cozette said they haven’t heard news from the governor’s office about reappointments as of

Wednesday.

“I came on the Board in 2007 and I know at the time there were several positions that had expired where the governor had not made reappointments,” Cozette said. “I think it’s typical that there is sometimes a lag on appointments to board like this.”

Siscel will remain the chair of the Board until the first meeting of 2012 when current vice chair Kenneth Read will assume the leadership role, but he will remain a Board member until a replacement is appointed, Siscel said.

“It’s not atypical for this to happen,” he said. “I’ve seen this happen in my service at Truman. They don’t always fill positions right away.”

During his term, the current governor has appointed non-voting member Michael Zito and student representative Luke Freeland, whose term also expires Jan. 1 (see story page 1), but Nixon has not yet appointed a voting member of the Board, according to the term dates on the governor’s website.

State law requires that no more than four members be from the same political party. Without Siscel, Cozette and Wasinger, the voting segment of the Board is composed of one independent, one Democrat, one Republican and a vacant slot, according to Nixon’s website.

Members also must be distributed throughout the state, with four representing counties in northeast Missouri, but no more than one from each county, and three from any of the seven college districts described in the statute.

## PROVOST | Paino announces Joan Poor will become the University’s permanent provost starting in July

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Poor will be a professor in the agricultural science department.

What tipped the scales in her favor, Paino said, was the fact that she’s had experience at St. Mary’s, a sister institution to Truman that’s comparable in terms of its student body, its mission and its niche within the state.

After the four finalists visited campus during the two weeks before Thanksgiving Break, Paino asked the search committee to do two things — compile feedback from students and faculty about the visits, and submit a report evaluating each candidate.

“I did not want a ranking — I wanted them really to provide me a list of strengths and weaknesses from their perspective,” he said.

Diane Johnson, communication professor and search committee co-chair, said she was pleased with the amount of feedback the committee received from faculty and students during the campus visits, especially considering most people are busy during the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving Break.

Poor said she hopes to make a couple of visits to campus during the spring semester to become better acquainted with the school and to start making moving plans.

As for Interim Provost Richard Coughlin, after July 1 he will return to being the dean of Pickler Memorial Library, a position he had for 15 years prior to his current role, Paino said.

## MCCASKILL | One of Missouri’s U.S. Senators is sponsoring grant writing sessions to aid rural economic growth

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team members stationed in Missouri attend all the sessions.

McCaskill is running for re-election in November 2012. She was targeted early as one of the senators most in electoral trouble, said political science professor Randy Hagerty. This is because she is a Democrat in an increasingly Republican state. There is strong competition from Republican candidates, especially Sarah Steelman and Todd Akin, he said.

“As a Democrat, her strongest base of support is going to be in the big cities,” Hagerty said. “Republicans have had a lot of success in rural areas.”

Despite strong competition, Hagerty said

he anticipates a close election. Areas such as Adair County lean Republican, but a strong Democrat can do quite well in this area, he said. The grant writing sessions might be an effort by McCaskill to reach out to her rural, Republican constituents, Hagerty said. However, programs such as this are part of her job as a senator and it is not unusual for her to have them, he said.

All the information provided by McCaskill’s staff can be found at [mccaskill.senate.gov](http://mccaskill.senate.gov).

USDA programs and information can be found at [rurdev.usda.gov/mo](http://rurdev.usda.gov/mo) and additional information about loans and grants can be found at [benefits.gov](http://benefits.gov) and [business.gov](http://business.gov).

## BUDGET | City Council first reads the \$26.5 million budget for 2012 at its Dec. 5 meeting, will vote to approve it Dec. 19

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next year.

“In September, the Council meets and has all of the information from departments including revenues, expenses and then the proposed capital projects, which are basically like the department’s wish lists,” Macomber said.

She said that the Council then decides the projects they want to fund, which Macomber then passes

out to the departments.

All department managers are invited to attend the meetings and retreat with the Council so they can have input and voice budget concerns, she said.

“Department managers are smart and know what’s appropriate to ask for money-wise,” Macomber said. “It has to fill a citizen need and provide a day-to-day service.”

After a public hearing at the

Council meeting for citizens to voice concerns about the budget that had been available for anyone to read in the City Administration office at City Hall, one person stepped forward.

Kirkville resident Rachel Ruhlen requested the Council add more money to the improvement plans for bicyclists and pedestrians. A car struck Ruhlen’s 15-year-old daughter while she was riding

her bike on Boundary Street during November 2010.

Public Works Director John Buckwalter said the major bike and pedestrian infrastructure project “Stay Active or Get Active: Kirkville complete street projects” has a three-year project plan. The money for this project will come from the trails and grant portion of the budget, rather than the transportation section, which

Ruhlen suggested.

Macomber said the budget was first read Monday so citizens like Ruhlen had the next week to voice any remaining concerns. She said cuts were made across the board, but nothing was substantial enough to cause major concerns so far.

The Council will second read and then vote on the budget at the next Council meeting at 6 p.m. Dec. 19 at City Hall in the Council Chamber.

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