

EDITORIAL

Our View

Policies must be changed to support equality

The editorial board wrote an Our View during November supporting the Student Senate proposals addressing the University's policies on homosexuality. Three months later, our stance hasn't changed — all people, regardless of sexual orientation, deserve the same rights. But now, more than ever, Truman State needs to begin making changes.

The Board of Governors asked University lawyer Warren Wells to draft two versions of its non-discrimination policy — one that will include sexual orientation — to be discussed at the April meeting (see story, page 3).

The current non-discrimination policy uses an umbrella term to ensure the only thing that could affect hiring or firing decisions is job performance. Adding sexual orientation would be merely symbolic, yet it would be proof of the University's acceptance of all people.

While we commend the Board for making a step in the right direction, a greater leap is needed. This month, Todd White, a final candidate for a position in the anthropology department, withdrew his application because his partner would not be covered under his benefits policy.

The department offered the job to the remaining top candidate and is waiting for administration approval, but White was one of the final two candidates out of more than 100 applicants. Truman must begin updating its policies about homosexuality because it has and could continue to harm the University's reputation among potential employees and even students.

More than 150 of 530 state-funded universities in the country provide their employees with domestic partner benefits, according to the American Civil Liberties Union. No Missouri state universities have made the step to extend benefits to domestic partners, though. However, the University of Missouri is scheduled to discuss and possibly vote on it during April, but why shouldn't Truman be the first to make this important step toward equality?

We urge the Board to vote to include sexual orientation in the non-discrimination policy. But on a larger scale, we want the conversation about equal benefits to continue to make Truman a university known for equality. Students who want to make their voices heard should go to the next Board meeting at 1p.m. April 14 in the Student Union Conference Room.

Corrections

- The unrelated photo on the front page of last week's Index had inaccurate outline information. Phi Sigma Pi's rush theme is not superhero. It is "three birds, one stone."
- The "Truman interested in new conference" article on the front page of last week's Index identified Truman's conference as the Midwest Intercollegiate Athletic Association. It is the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association.
- The "Love on campus" feature on page 9 of last week's Index said part-time philosophy and religion professor Neal Delmonico used to teach at the University of Iowa. He actually taught at Iowa State in Ames.

To submit corrections or to contact the editor, please email index.editor@gmail.com, call us at 660-785-4449 or send a letter to Index, 1200 Barnett Hall, Truman State University, Kirksville, Mo., 63501.

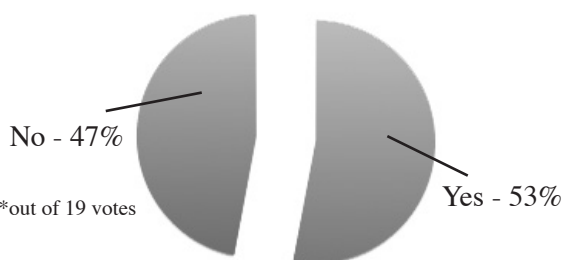
Cartoon

By Sara Hahn



Web Poll

Should Missouri laws be changed to remove limits on nurses' ability to practice?



This week's web poll question:

Is the One Million Moms organization helpful or ignorant?

Vote online at trumanindex.com

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Letters to the Editor

Resident complains about one-sided political reporting

Readers should all know that this letter is the third attempt by this writer to submit to the Index a letter even the slightest critical of GOP State Representative Wyatt's "impeachment" and now "statement" prolific attacks of Democrat Adair Judge Steele.

By contrast, the Kirksville Daily Express published such a defense by me in at least opening allusion Feb. 8, and both it and the more liberal ABC/CBS KTVO have, also, permitted me some of the judge's supported a proper answer back role. A task hampered Newt Gingrich attack slogan style, as Wyatt well knows by the fact Wyatt has himself used legislative record privilege dating back to my native originating UK protection to make detailed so-called charges that Steele not being a House member cannot sue or respond to at all in manifest one sidedness.

Ken Dusold's opinion piece, however, is answerable by surely any journalistic ethics standards, and I call upon him to practice what he preaches. "Recus" himself as your Index Assistant Editor by usual banner opposite page the duration of this now Wyatt, Dusold started anti-Steele effort. Otherwise, a perception is coming across you have it as a

paper in for Steele to his immunity record protested Wyatt accuser, or you, me if innocence-before-calumny principle has any worth. Especially as Dusold did not disavow a relative on the blogosphere last year abusing this writer for openly critiquing yet another opinion piece by young Dusold defamers of Wall Street anti-capitalist student protestors.

Now, accordingly, let's defend a good liberal popular judge from what Dusold opines to be I quote repetitively "non-political" and new allegedly allegations before the Jefferson City Judiciary House Committee.

At onset, though, there is naught "brave" or "young" courage by Wyatt as linguistically his disciple, Dusold, paints. If Steele were replaced, Nixon would kindly be truthful, not a Democrat replacement as Wyatt's party are ruthlessly rejecting even his Governor Nixon least controversial appointments in what even the Republican editor/proprietor of the Columbia Daily Tribune, Hank Waters, has labeled extreme partisan excess.

Secondly, there is nothing new in Wyatt's far-out, far right wing defense dogma of the religious academy he loves. Steele is merely instead upholding a principle going back to the 1776 non-Tory "Whig" founding U.S. father Jefferson that state public education at all levels should receive we the economically poorest greater monies. Otherwise, we end up unfairly subsidizing the state or federal rich in gross bias for the rich males many of us do believe

support the Wyatt GOP in so much documentation I could fill you paper with donor proofs galore.

Lastly, especially bad since Dan Warner's news reports have never given any of Steele's statement defense counter-details. Dusold fills his piece with Wyatt's personal malfeasance allegations against Steele. So, the effect is like Salem witch trials or Goebbels propaganda ideal "lies" become true if constantly repeated one sided, and by Dusold called non-political and serious like Dickens Pecksniff character in Martin Chuzzlewit. An effect Dusold and Wyatt exacerbate by adding subpoena threats and promises to suing to disgorge allegedly hidden professional misconduct commissions.

This is financial, sexual McCarthyism totally unworthy of you good name and a sinister return to the female and we progressives unfriendly one-sided Index, 1980s of the early Reaganite, male years. Let's see if this letter appears now finally remembering indeed Wyatt's rather old age, rigged re-election boundaries in assurance and let's all feel bad.

That 2012 only Dusold so far has been allowed an opinion so pretentiously but in ugly reality not above the innuendo fray in support solely of Wyatt, a rogue politically in not just my eyes.

Larry Iles
Kirksville resident

Editorial Policy

The Index is published Thursdays during the school year by students at Truman State University, Kirksville, MO 63501. The first copy is free, and additional copies cost 50 cents each. The production offices are located in Barnett Hall. We can be reached by phone at 660-785-4449. The Index is a designated public forum, and content of the Index is the responsibility of the Index staff. The editor in chief consults with the staff and adviser but ultimately is responsible for all decisions. Opinions of Index columnists are not necessarily representative of the opinions of the staff or the newspaper. Our View editorials represent the view of the Editorial Board through a majority vote. The Editorial Board consists of the editor in chief, managing editor, news editor, sports editor and opinions editor. The Index reserves the right to edit submitted material because of space limitations, repetitive subject matter, libelous content or any other reason the editor in chief deems appropriate. Submitted material includes advertisements and letters to the editor.

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The Index welcomes letters to the editor from the University community. Letters to the editor are due by noon the Monday before publication and become property of the Index. Submissions are subject to editing, must contain a well-developed theme and cannot exceed 500 words except at the discretion of the Editorial Board. Letters containing personal attacks will not be published. All letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, signed by at least one individual and include a phone number for verification. The Index does not publish anonymous letters to the editor. Letters to the editor also may be submitted by e-mail at index.opinionseditor@gmail.com or on our website at www.trumanindex.com. Include the words "letter to the editor" in the subject line of the e-mail. No individual may submit more than one letter a week.

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