

# Club gives students vision for the future

## Pre-Optometry Club prepares students for their vision of the future

BY ALEX CARLSON  
Staff Reporter

As an elementary school student, sophomore Kara Rowden wanted to be a lawyer and follow in her father's footsteps. It wasn't until she visited her local optometrist and got glasses during second grade that her entire perspective changed, and not just her eyesight.

More than 12 years later, Rowden is an optometrist in training and the president of Truman State's Pre-Optometry Club. This organization helps students interested in the optometry field educate others about optometry and study for the Optometry Admissions Test, the optometrists' equivalent of the Medical College Admission Test that upperclassmen in the medical field complete.

Rowden said that although not every child likes going to the optometrist, her doctor was nice and enthusiastic about helping her with her eyesight, which eventually inspired her to pursue a career in optometry and become an officer in the club.

"Sight is a precious sense, and I think it would be very rewarding to help provide that to people," Rowden said.

Rowden has used the lessons learned to assist students in the Pre-Optometry Club, while furthering her own career as well. She said that during her work as an optometrist's technician in Jefferson City, Mo., she was able to learn more about how the eyes display a person's health. Based on eye examinations, conditions like high cholesterol or high blood pressure can be detected. Even symptoms of diabetes and sexually transmitted diseases can be found in the eyes, she said.

Junior Katie Loock manages public relations for the club. After wearing glasses since she was 9 months old, Loock learned what it's like to have poor vision early in her life and wants to help others who undergo similar conditions. Early during her Truman

career, Loock debated whether to pursue optometry, but once she discovered the Pre-Optometry Club, her decision to become an optometrist became clear.

Loock said that while the organization isn't equivalent to a real optometry school, the fundamentals of optometry school and careers are introduced in the club without any trouble. Loock encourages students with even a little interest in optometry to check out the organization.

Biology professor Elisabeth Hooper has advised the club for more than five years. Hooper said even though the optometry field is competitive, the club helps interested students share experiences and find support, at Truman and in the bigger picture.

"The Pre-Optometry Club is a way for optometry students to get their foot in the door," Hooper said. "They can really find a belonging community who want to help them."

Students like Rowden and Loock continue to keep their eyes open for new opportunities to keep the club's ideas fresh, while also informing both students and the community about optometrists' places in the medical field.

"The Pre-Optometry Club is a good resource for students who are interested in the profession," Rowden said. "It's helped me so much that my family expects

some discounted eye exams when I become certified."

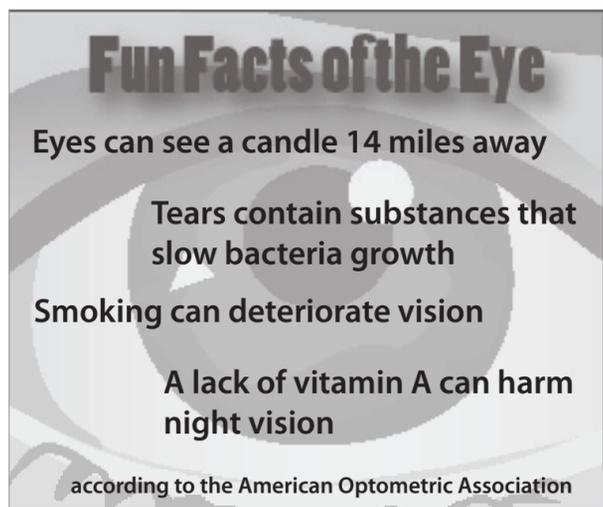
With a normal attendance of only 10 people per monthly meeting, the Pre-Optometry Club captures the close, personal attention eye doctors give their patients. A typical meeting includes study sessions for the OAT.

Pre-Optometry Club members usually take the OAT as juniors, Rowden said. Passing the OAT allows the students to move on to optometry school. Rowden said optometry students usually go on to attend the University of Missouri-St. Louis, the closest of only 17 colleges in the nation to offer optometry schools.

In preparation for the OAT, the Pre-Optometry Club has organized guest speakers such as doctors from UMSL who answer questions about the test procedure in a roundtable discussion environment.

The OAT isn't the only event the club keeps an eye on. The club has promotes its teachings in the community by visiting local libraries and informing patrons about the benefits of proper eye care. Members read books about eye health to children at the libraries in a laid-back environment.

The Pre-Optometry Club meets once a month in Magruder Hall 1094 at 7 p.m. The next meeting is Feb. 7 and is open to all students.



# Students find book shortcuts

## Students search for cheaper ways to acquire books

BY KATHLEEN BARBOSA  
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This semester junior Shihara Maduwage has four classes requiring 11 books and costing more than \$350.

As classes require books in newer and more expensive editions, students like Maduwage are searching for alternatives to a trip to the bookstore to find ways to save money on textbooks.

For Maduwage, finding books at a reasonable price is often difficult. She has bought books from the bookstore because it offers convenience and ensures she has her books on time, Maduwage said she prefers buying books from friends.

The most frustrating part, Maduwage said, is when she sells back her books for only a small portion of the money she paid.

To avoid the loss of value of textbooks, senior Thomas Hughes looks to a Facebook page, "Save money on books at TSU!" to buy and sell books from other Truman State students.

While Hughes didn't start the page, he said he was one of the first users. When the group started five years ago, Hughes said there were only a few members, but now the group has more than 800 Truman students. Page members can post book information by course identification number, and other members respond and work out a time, place and price to exchange and buy the book.

The group does more than help students find books, Hughes said. It helps them communicate while cutting out middlemen like bookstores.

"The group is meant to help people save money and to really foster dialogue between students," Hughes said. "If someone already has a book and they're willing to sell it, it wouldn't make sense to have some third party to sell it."

As a philosophy and religion major, Hughes said he often has trouble finding people who are selling the books he needs on the Facebook page. In those cases, Hughes said he turns to Pickler Memorial Library's Mobius Program.

Hughes said he checks out the books for his classes through the system for free and he can renew or return them when he's done.

Despite these other resources, Hughes said he still purchases materials from the Truman bookstore, especially biology textbooks he can use for several classes.

From the book store perspective, Elio Distaola Follet, Higher Education group director of Campus Relations, said the Truman bookstore provider tries to provide lower cost options for students.

These efforts include used and for rent textbooks, but Distaola said the store does not offer other low cost options such as older editions and international books.

Distaola said Follet doesn't offer those materials because it strives to provide the same classroom experience for all students by ensuring they all have the exact book the professor has assigned for the class.

In the expanding digital world, Distaola said international, rent and online books have been the topic of discussion among book providers for years.

Follet's policy has been that the pitfalls of buying books internationally includes problems with international shipping, content differences and the inconvenience of returning books has made them decide not to sell them or buy them back.

Distaola said the cost of textbooks always has been a concern, even when he was in college.

"I was a student not that long ago, and I know that I am going to go as far as I humanly can to find the best value," Distaola said.

Whether used, new, online, rented or borrowed, Distaola said he encourages students to shop competitively because it keeps the bookstore "sharp" and helps students spend less.

# Classifieds

## Rates:

- On-Campus: \$3 per ad per issue. Under 25 words.
- Off-Campus: \$5 per ad per issue. Under 25 words.

### For Rent

Wagner Enterprises rental properties are available for 2012-2013 lease. New units with 1-, 2- and 3-bedrooms are all within two blocks of campus! Complete with washer/dryer in each, all electric, central heat and air, private parking and maintenance staff. For more information, call 660-341-5538 or visit [www.wespaces.net](http://www.wespaces.net)

Behrmann Rentals is offering a nice 2-bedroom home close to TSU available May 15, 2012. This home rents for \$450 and has hardwood floors, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer and dishwasher, central air and carport. Visit [www.housesinkirksville.com](http://www.housesinkirksville.com) for photos and more information or call Jeff Behrmann, owner/agent, at 660-626-7598.

Property Concepts LLC, your source for affordable student housing, now is leasing for the 2012-2013 school year. Studios, 1- and 2-bedroom units available. Apartments starting at \$325 with heat, water, trash, electric, wireless Internet and cable TV included. Two blocks from campus. On-site laundry. 24-hour maintenance. Pet friendly units available. Close to downtown. 660-627-1400. [kirksvillapartments.com](http://kirksvillapartments.com)

Two-bedroom, 1-bath house, close to University Farm, front deck with great view. Available 5/2012. Living room, eat-in kitchen, dishwasher/disposal, washer/dryer, new central heat and A/C. 660-988-5175. [jim@kirksvillarental.com](mailto:jim@kirksvillarental.com) [www.kirksvillarental.com](http://www.kirksvillarental.com)

Two-bedroom, 1-bath house, close to TSU and Hy-Vee. Available 8/2012. Living room, eat-in kitchen, dishwasher/disposal, washer/dryer, new central heat and A/C. 660-988-5175. [jim@kirksvillarental.com](mailto:jim@kirksvillarental.com) [www.kirksvillarental.com](http://www.kirksvillarental.com)

Sublease needed for January-May of this school year. One-bedroom with all utilities included, plus it's walking distance from campus. Call Jerry at 660-216-1794.

Two-bedroom, 1-bath apartment, one block from campus with private parking. Newly renovated with a covered front porch, large backyard and tons of character. Only \$450 a month! Pet friendly home! Call 660-216-1794 for a personal showing or visit <http://northeastmissouriproperties.com> for more information.

Four-bedroom apartment. Two baths, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer and dryer. Available for August lease. 660-341-7529. No pets.

Large apartment two blocks from campus. Three to four bedrooms, two kitchens, two bathrooms. For four students to share. \$200 a person. All utilities included. 805 S. Fifth St. 660-349-0766.

Nice 3-bedroom condo for only \$650. All appliances including washer and dryer. Attached garage for bikes. 909 Sundown. Very Nice. KPM 665-6380.

Three- and four-bedroom houses close to campus. Newly remodeled. Washer/dryer, stove, refrigerator and microwaves included. Available May. 660-216-3803.

### For Rent

Missouri Riverside now is showing 1-, 2-, 3-, 4- and 5-bedroom apartments and houses for the 2012-2013 school year. Create a home away from home in one of our newly remodeled houses. Locally owned and managed with more than 20 years of service. Call 660-665-3779 today and schedule an appointment!

For rent: Several nice one-, two- and three-bedroom units available in the Water Works, Boardwalk, Park Place, St. James and Community Chest Apartments. All within one block of campus. Please check our website at [www.4horizonsrealty.com](http://www.4horizonsrealty.com) or call Four Horizons Realty, Inc. at (660) 655-3400.

Renting the White Apartments: A few still available! Come see what we offer! One, 2-, 3- and 4-bedrooms. Call 627-2060 or visit [www.TheWhiteApartments.com](http://www.TheWhiteApartments.com).

Looking to sublease a new, three-bedroom apartment. One-bedroom available immediately. Appliances included. Call 314-727-9460.

Three-bedroom, 1-bathroom house, close to campus with washer and dryer. Newly renovated with beautiful floors and a modern kitchen. \$625 a month with some utilities included for the 2012-2013 school year. Locally owned and managed with exceptional service. Pet friendly home! Call 660-216-1794 for a personal showing or visit <http://northeastmissouriproperties.com> for more information.

One-bedroom furnished apartment 2 blocks from TSU. Off-street parking. A/C. No pets. 660-341-3246.

Three-bedroom, 1 1/2 bath duplex. High efficiency heating and cooling. Washer and dryer hookups. Walking distance from Truman. Attractive, open design. Quiet neighborhood. S. Sheridan St. M-F call 665-8356.

Four-bedroom, 2-bath/shower, 2 living rooms. Being remodeled now and available for May 2012. New refrigerator, stove, dishwasher and washer/dryer included. Close to TSU and fraternities. Lease now and choose color of paint for bedrooms, carpet color, etc. \$850 per month. Call Bobby Poston at 660-216-1445 to schedule showing.

Four-bedroom, 2-bath/shower. Large living room and dining room. Washer/dryer included. \$650 a month. May lease. This house is huge with lots of space. Neat and well maintained. Call 660-216-1445 to schedule showing.

Spring semester 2012. Nice 1-, 2- or 3-bedroom apartments. On-site laundry. Call 627-2060 for more information.

Cozy and cool 2-bedroom loft apartment 25 yards from TSU. Incredible location. Perfect for one or two. Remodeled inside. 606 E. Randolph only \$325. KPM 665-6380.

### For Rent

Gordon and Motter Apartments. Two- and 3-bedrooms close to campus, all appliances including washer/dryer. 660-341-4163.

High quality 2- and 3-bedroom apartments available for May, June and August 2012 leases. Oriented for professional students who demand a quiet environment. CALL ONLY 626-7695.

Available May. Three-bedroom house close to TSU, nice yard, off-street parking. Hardwood floors, front porch swing, washer/dryer. Call Mike LaBeth, owner-agent 660-216-7144.

Available August. Two-bedroom house close to TSU. Nice yard, off-street parking. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer. Big rooms. Call Mike LaBeth, owner-agent 660-216-7144.

One efficiency apartment. \$240 a month. Stove and refrigerator furnished. Off-street parking. Close to Truman. Water and trash paid. 660-216-1952.

Newer 3-bedroom duplex apartment. Two full baths. Two walk-in closets, off-street parking, refrigerator, range, dishwasher, garbage disposal, washer, dryer, central air, outside storage shed. Available May 18, 2012. 802 N. Green. \$600. 665-3208. 8-5.

Newer 2-bedroom duplex apartments. Near Downtown. Walk-in closet, washer, dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, range, central air, garbage disposal, outside storage shed. Off-street parking. Available May and August. \$425. 665-3208. 8-5.

Newer 2-bedroom duplex apartments. Four blocks from campus. Walk-in closet, washer, dryer, refrigerator, range, central air, garbage disposal, off-street parking. Available May and August. \$450. 665-3208. 8-5.

Large 4 plus bedroom apartment. Remodeled. Four blocks from TSU. All utilities paid including Internet and cable. Washer and dryer included. Available August 1. Call 660-216-8608 or 660-627-7243.

Four-bedroom, 2-bath 10 yards from campus. All appliances including washer/dryer. 601 E. Patterson \$900. Great parking. KPM 665-6380.

Two-bedroom brick duplex, one block from TSU. Newly remodeled with awesome location. All electric for low utilities. 1015 S. Halliburton is only \$450. KPM 665-6380.

### For Sale

Brick Cape Cod house for SALE by owner, (plus 2 additional lots) 2 blocks from TSU, central air, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 fireplaces, screened in porch w/ second floor deck, family room 38' x 12', Call 660-627-0040 or 660-349-8466.