

Hanna Bilinski/Index  
Junior Emily Aubuchon works on her research paper in the tutoring room at the Student Success Center on Tuesday. Aubuchon currently works as one of the tutors for the Center.

# Two advising offices merge

**By July, New Student Programs and the Student Success Center will combine**

BY GRACE FREEMAN  
Staff Reporter

Two University offices that provide academic support to students will combine starting July 1 into the new Center for Academic Excellence, and a new director will be hired by University President Troy Paino to oversee the new office during the next two weeks.

New Student Programs and the Student Success Center both offer academic support, but NSP helps incoming and transfer students, and organizes study skills courses. The Student Success Center offers similar advising for students who need academic support, including tutoring services, training for tutors and studying tips.

"I realized that perhaps we were making a false distinction that these are really two separate operations," said Marty Eisenberg, associate provost and dean of New Student Programs. "We believe we can serve our students better in helping them beat their long-term goals of excellence by combining the operations."

Eisenberg said the combined offices will continue to offer what they have previously, in addition to providing more support from academic advisers.

"My guess is for most people that

it will be a more subtle change when people are having more struggles in class, that their advisers will be able to help them more than they currently have helped them," Eisenberg said.

Jack Holcomb, interim director and recent academic adviser in New Student Programs, is one of the director position applicants. An academic adviser, he will be involved with merging the two offices and directing the new one, if chosen for the position.

"Combining or advising and working in our other academic support, lets us offer kind of a cohesive package of academic support for students who need it," Holcomb said. "Advisers are going to be more wired into what's going on with the tutoring. Students are going to have a lot more opportunities for help."

Holcomb said New Student Programs teaches incoming students skills they didn't use in high school. When a student comes in for help, he or she often relies on their high school study skills, whereas academic advisers work with students to become more deliberate in their learning strategies through a long-time method called Developmental Advising.

"That very often involves getting a sense of how prepared they are in terms of study skills," Holcomb said. "This is Truman, and we recruit students who are really talented but sometimes they have been studying in a very intuitive ways."

# Wyatt announces re-election bid

BY HUONG TRAN  
Staff Reporter

Rep. Zachary Wyatt, (R-2), is so far running unopposed for reelection in the Missouri House of Representatives, with the March 27 filing deadline fast approaching.

Wyatt intends to campaign around issues including education reform and renewable energy.

As of press time, the Missouri Democratic party could not be reached for comment about whether it plans to put a candidate against Wyatt in the race.

Wyatt is running for a second term in the House, which would span Jan. 2013 to Jan. 2015, and said his goals include passing legislation to facilitate renewable energy production in Missouri, education reform and ensuring the legislature does not overlook his district.

"We are now to the point that legislation needs to be passed to facilitate the building of the wind farms," Wyatt said. "We are trying to get the energy companies in Missouri to agree that all the money that they invest into renewable to be in Missouri."

Renew Missouri Director P.J. Wilson said less than 1 percent of the energy currently used in Missouri is renewable.

This is a comparatively dismal number, considering Iowa uses 27 percent from renewable energy. Illinois and Kansas also plan to increase renewable energy usage to 20-25 percent, he said.

Renewable energy will be beneficial financially because the prices of coal and natural gas fluctuate. Missouri is heavily coal-dependent and pays \$1.3 billion to Wyoming to buy coal, Wilson said. This money could be saved

by using renewable energy.

Wyatt said his goal to focus on education reform begins by rerouting funds to rural districts.

"We need to realize that more money to the city or urban schools will not fix their failing school districts," Wyatt said. "I would also like to see the state to be able to opt out of No Child Left Behind."

Wyatt said he would strive to continue his bipartisan work.

"I feel that it is imperative that we acknowledge that we must work together on what we can agree on, even though that will never encompass everything," Wyatt said.

Wyatt said he was able to pass three bills last session: House Bill 300, the Brain Injury Act and House Bill 89, which allocated funds to develop the East Locust Creek Reservoir in Sullivan County. HB 111 was passed after Bill 775, which changed the laws allowing a sheriff to receive reimbursement for the actual costs of transporting a person to and from a mental health facility, a public or private hospital, a non-profit charitable organization, the state or a political subdivision.

"I do wish that there had been more progress on renewable energy production issues," Wyatt said. "This session I have started trying to disseminate information through the Senate in hopes that the related bill will be voted Do Pass out of both chambers."

While no Democrat or Republican has filed to run against Wyatt as of Wednesday evening, Kirksville attorney Jay Benson said there are people who are unhappy with Wyatt for the resolution he introduced in the House to file an article of impeachment against Adair County Circuit Judge Russell Steele, who is up for reelection during November.



Zachary Wyatt

# Sodexo hires new director

BY ASHLEY JOST  
Assistant News Editor  
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University President Troy Paino announced yesterday Lora Cunningham has been hired as the Food Services Director for the coming year.

After previously declining to apply for the position, Cunningham decided that it was time for her to move up from her current assistant director position after no one else applied.

"I thought at first that I would best assist the new director in my position, to maybe make the new director's job easier," she said. She said she soon realized that the best decision for the university would be for her to apply.

Dennis Markeson, the current Food Service Director, said Cun-

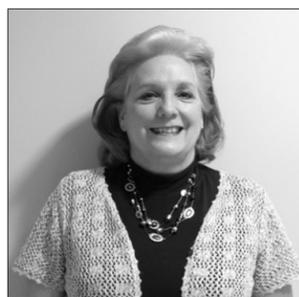
ningham knows how operations run, what students want and how to take care of the University, which is why he is confident she's the best person for this position.

Markeson said he's worked with Cunningham since 1986, except for a seven-year period when her spouse's job took her away from Kirksville.

"We're actively advertising for Lora's assistant director position and hoping to have someone by the end of March to start training," he said.

Cunningham's situational history and awareness of Truman State's uniqueness is a quality that gives her an advantage to the position, said Lou Ann Gilchrist, Dean of Student Affairs.

"Dennis leaves big shoes to fill," Cunningham said. "But no matter what happens next year, I have him on speed dial."



Lora Cunningham

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For more information or to purchase general admission tickets online, go to [lyceum.truman.edu](http://lyceum.truman.edu).



Advertisement for Truman Rentals and the American Shakespeare Center's production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Includes contact information for Four Horizons Realty and details about the play's performance on March 20, 2012.