

**NURSING** | The Accelerated Bachelors of Nursing Program begins with the first class May 28

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Truman received the maximum amount. The majority of the money from the grant will be used for setting up the program and the summer classes, said Janet Gooch, Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Education.

"Currently, faculty members within the nursing department will be teaching those online courses and so the money is really in the development rather than the ongoing instruction of those courses," Gooch said. "We intend to apply again. If we don't get the money, we're still committed to see the program go on."

Gooch said the program likely will stay the same size, regardless of whether or not the grant is renewed. She said because of nursing accreditation requirements, there must be a certain amount of available clinical space and a certain student-to-faculty ratio that prevents much growth for departments as small as Truman's, with about 50 new students accepted each year. Despite this, she said the nursing department has recognized the need to implement the program for about the last five years. She said she is happy progress finally is being made.

"I think that the degree to which we will be able to accommodate additional students and to help with the nursing shortage is a really important contribution from Truman and the Truman nursing program," Gooch said.

Gooch said the nursing department has received inquiries throughout the past from students who have a degree in a related field and are interested in earning a nursing



Sarah-Wonder Agbehia/Index  
Junior Rachel Phillips, left, and sophomore Abby Crew, right, practice medical procedures with a child dummy Tuesday in the Health Science building. Truman State's new 15-month accelerated nursing program will begin May 28.

degree. Prior to the Accelerated Bachelors, Gooch said the students had to get a second bachelors degree to do that. Gooch said the accelerated degree provides more flexibility for those students.

Sophomore Kellen Weiss said he was pleased to hear about the start-up of the

ABSN program.

"I initially didn't get into the [nursing] program and went into health science and found out that I could enter the accelerated program and chase my dream of being a pediatric nurse practitioner, so I love the fact that we have it," Weiss said.

**FEE** | Student Senate approved updates to locker rooms and hammer cage nets

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The hammer cage nets will be replaced because they currently are not safe and will not last through the summer, she said.

McGruder said both projects are in the bidding process and will be completed by the start of the 2013-2014 academic year.

Freshman swimmer Ashley Shanel said it is difficult to use the current lockers because most don't have bottoms and they all are completely rusted. She said she is glad the problem finally is being addressed.

"We've learned to deal with the problem," Shanel said. "But having new lockers that work will be so much nicer."

Athletic Director Jerry Wollmering said these updates were requested by committee members who noticed the deteriorating equipment. He said some short term improvements he hopes to make include replacing certain scoreboards, improving field maintenance and repairing the fencing around the football stadium.

"It's been great to be able to do all these things for the campus and provide better facilities for our student athletes and students in general," Wollmering said. "The student fees allow us to do this."

McGruder said these two projects likely will be the last proposed by the committee this year. She said some major projects the committee hopes to complete during the next 10 years include replacing the track and creating another recreational field behind Centennial Hall.

**FLOOD** | Grim Hall flooded April 17

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able to fix the room that night.

"We know that building's foundation leaks when there's heavy rain," Schneider said. "There's no way to stop water when that building leaks."

Hobbs said she thinks the University owes her and her roommate a refund for placing them in a room they knew was prone to flooding.

"I know it was only one night, but still, it's kind of ridiculous that we can't be in the rooms that we paid for," Hobbs said.

Schneider said he hopes the University will renovate Grim Hall soon, but currently it doesn't have the time or money to do so. Schneider said he hopes Grim will be the next residence hall to be renovated, as it hasn't seen any major renovation work during the last 15 years.

"Since they're going to keep using it as a residence hall, it makes sense to spend some money on it," Schneider said.

**LEAP** | Employers and educators join together to support liberal education through the LEAP Compact

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Paino said the college and university presidents who have signed the trust reached out to employers across the country to form the LEAP Compact. Paino said he reached out to the Boeing Company in St. Louis and Cerner Corporation in Kansas City, Mo., two companies that hire many Truman graduates. Both companies joined the compact, and Paino said he will continue to contact other employers throughout Missouri.

Paino said Boeing in particular is a company that Truman already has a close relationship with. Dean of the School of Business Debra Kerby said Boeing already funds the TruLeaders Academy leadership development program, provides job shadowing and internship experiences for students, connects students with mentors and more.

"We have a very close work-

ing relationship with Boeing right now," Kerby said. "Boeing has been extremely supportive in enhancing the skills of students on campus. They clearly understand the value of the liberal arts. They understand the importance of critical thinking and good communication skills, and they are helping us enhance those in students."

Paino said he hopes to expand existing relationships through the compact.

For Truman and other institutions of higher education, Paino said the focus of this compact is to ensure students are learning skills they will need post-graduation.

"We need to be held accountable for the quality of education we offer our students," Paino said. "There's a lot of talk about getting students degrees, which is important, but I think for Truman, what is even more important is the nature and the quality of the education the

students are receiving in the pursuit of those degrees."

In terms of the compact's practical application, Paino said his hope is there will be more opportunities, such as internships at the companies who are part of the compact available for Truman students. He said Truman also might offer new classes or change existing classes as a result of the feedback from the participating employers.

Humphreys said the advantage of internships facilitated by the compact is college faculty members will be able to work closely with employers to ensure the internships are effective for students.

Humphreys said she expects the compact to grow significantly during the next year as more colleges and employers become involved. She said there will also be events across the country to promote the compact.

Along with this compact, Humphreys said the AAC&CU released a report April 10 that reported findings from a survey of business and nonprofit leaders, which she said coincides with the goals of the compact.

For example, the survey found 80 percent of employers think students should acquire a broad range of knowledge of the liberal arts and sciences.

"Employers, when they're looking for employees who they want to be successful in their organizations and ultimately rise to leadership roles within their organizations, are not as focused on majors as one might think," Paino said. "They're looking for intellectual skills and they're looking at how students can apply those skills in a real world setting, so I think what this [compact] does is elevate the importance of a liberally educated individual."

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