

Happy holidays from the Index

Truman State University INDEX

104 years of excellence

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Room and board rates increase

The Board of Governors approved a 2.9 percent increase for on campus room and board

BY ANDI WATKINS DAVIS
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The Board of Governors approved an averaged 2.9 percent increase for room and board rates for the 2013-2014 school year during its Dec. 1 meeting.

The increase reflected a number of projected cost increases, including labor and salary costs, food costs and utilities, budget director Dave Rector said.

"The drought this past year really drove up food costs a lot and energy costs, in terms of electricity particularly but also water, are going up too," Rector said.

Rector said he anticipates food costs for the University for next year to increase 3.5 percent and utilities 10 percent.

The increase of housing costs will be consistent throughout the different types of rooms, with only minor variations in the exact dollar amount increase, he said. The increase will add an average cost of \$246 per semester for double rooms, Rector said.

He said he met with Lou Ann Gilchrest, Dean of Student Affairs, John Gardner, Director of Residence Life, and Lora Cunningham, Sodexo food services director, to discuss and calculate the increase. Rector said the increase was presented during the December Board of Governors meeting to allow students a chance to view housing costs before signing contracts to live on campus during the next year.

While calculating the costs, Rector said he compared Truman State's room and board

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Missouri highway patrol recredited

Missouri Highway Patrol receives recreditation for meeting the required safety standards

BY ROSE MCCRAY
Staff Reporter

The Missouri Highway Patrol was recredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc. on Nov. 17.

The Patrol was awarded advanced accreditation, with excellence, at CALEA's fall banquet, meaning the Patrol meets all the necessary safety guidelines.

"We take it pretty seriously because we became the 11th state law enforcement agency to be accredited by CALEA," Captain J. Tim Hull said.

To continue being accredited, an agency must go through the process every three years. He said the Commission reviews all of the policies, procedures, equipment and resources to make sure they meet the standards for accreditation.

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Equality incorporated

The Board of Governors votes to incorporate sexual orientation into the nondiscrimination policy

BY ASHLEY JOST, News Editor



The Board of Governors voted 6-1 to add sexual orientation to its nondiscrimination policy during its meeting Saturday, adding Truman State to the majority of Missouri public universities that have taken this action.

General Counsel Warren Wells said the change in the policy wasn't addressing specific concerns or situations, but rather members of the University community's desire for more specific language.

"It became clear that the policy we had just wasn't working in terms of being informative," Wells said. "The old policy served its purpose but it was time to streamline, so we don't have the arguments about what is covered, and what's not."

According to the language of the new policy, the University cannot discriminate against current or potential students or faculty and staff based on their sexual orientation in addition to the groups which are already protected within federal law.

Wells said the majority of the four-year, public universities across the state already have added sexual orientation to their nondiscrimination policies.

The Academic and Student Affairs

Committee for the Board has been discussing changes to the nondiscrimination policy for the majority of the calendar year, University President Troy Paino said.

"As I told Board members before the decision on Saturday, and again afterward, for me as the President of this university, it's not going to change what I do one iota because I wouldn't tolerate any form of discrimination," Paino said. "The only thing we do here is evaluate people on their job performance."

Paino said students, faculty and staff thought the old policy was too vague,

and he thinks the Board achieved the goal of clarifying the language involved.

"It's a good policy and I think it's time to move on," he said.

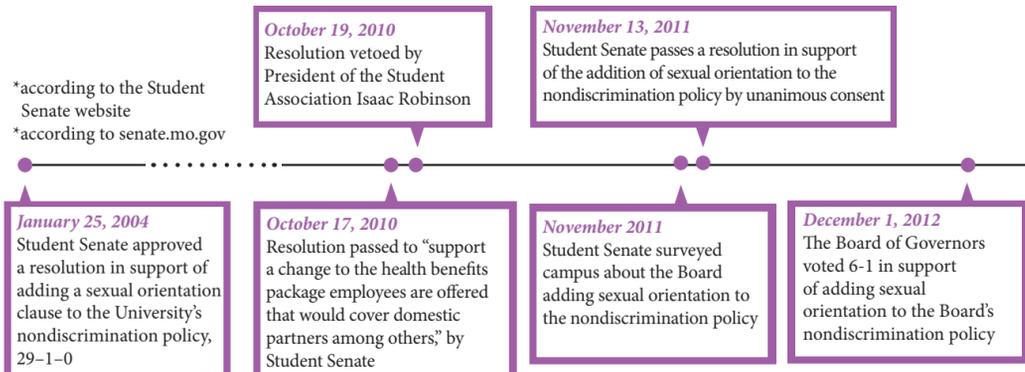
Junior Aaron Malin, president of the Student Association, said he began the push for the addition of sexual orientation to the nondiscrimination policy during October 2011 when he started developing a resolution for Student Senate in support of same-sex partner benefits. He said he found Truman was one of the only universities throughout Missouri to not

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"In compliance with federal law and applicable Missouri statutes, the University does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, age, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission to or employment in its education programs or activities."

-17.020. Notice of Non-Discrimination

Sexual orientation addition to the nondiscrimination policy



New standards approved for preparing educators

MoSPE standards for teacher education programs:

- ✓ **1: Academics**
Candidates demonstrate content knowledge and pedagogy.
- ✓ **2: Design and assessment**
Data will be used to measure the performance of candidates.
- ✓ **3: Field and clinical experiences**
These experiences are offered in collaboration with PK-12 schools to support the development of educators.
- ✓ **4: Candidates**
A diverse pool of candidates, who demonstrate potential for effectiveness as educators, are developed.
- ✓ **5: Faculty**
Educator preparation faculty are qualified.
- ✓ **6: Operations and resources**
Operations and resources are necessary to govern, develop, support and maintain educator preparation programs.

*according to Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

BY PAIGE YUNGERMANN
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The Missouri State Board of Education approved new standards for educator preparation programs Nov. 27.

The new standards, the Missouri Standards for Professional Educators, go into effect March 30, 2013, and detail the requirements future educators, including teachers, school officials and librarians, must meet to become certified.

Gale Hairston, Missouri Education Preparation Director, said MoSPE were designed to replace 14-year-old preparation standards, Missouri Standards for Teacher Education Programs, which Hairston said is outdated.

"The nature of instruction is different," Hairston said. "The students coming into

the classroom are a lot different. MoSPE is the next generation's set of standards."

Hairston said MoSPE includes six educator preparation standards, as opposed to the eight standards for MoSTEP. These six standards are academics, assessments, field and clinical experiences, candidates, educator preparation program faculty and resources.

Schools will be held accountable to the new state standards beginning during fall 2014 and Paul Yoder, education department chair, said Truman State will not have to do much to meet the requirements. He said most aspects of Truman's Master of Arts in Education program already meet the standards, and the biggest change will be making sure students are familiar with MoSPE.

One example of a change from

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