

PAINO | University President Troy Paino speaks about the budget and funding formulas

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education is 4 percent, but because Truman failed to demonstrate an increase in critical thinking last year from a three year rolling average, which was one of the five criteria used to determine funding, Truman only will receive 3.44 percent.

The five criteria used to evaluate higher education and to assign the amount of funding include the percent of total expenditure on core mission, retention rates, graduation rates, a quality of learning assessment and a fifth, institution specific criteria that the universities select for themselves, Paino said.

Truman chose to demonstrate improvement in students' critical thinking. This was the one criteria the University did not meet, and Paino said that students' critical thinking actually fell by more than 5 percent, from 71.2 to 65.8 percent during a three year period, based on faculty evaluation of student senior portfolios.

Paino said there wasn't an identifiable reason for the drop, and that measuring critical thinking through portfolio evaluation can often produce "random" results, which he said is one of the flaws of this particular indicator.

Paino said he is hopeful that during the next evaluation period, there will be a performance increase in this category.

Paino, sad that using critical thinking as a criteria originally was implemented with the understanding that it would be used for three years as a trial period.

Paino said the current negotiations about the funding formula offer an opportunity to revamp the way Truman evaluates quality.

Degree Qualifications Profile

As students progress through their education, they move from Associate's level competency towards Master's level.

Civic Learning
Student develops the capacity for analysis and reflection

Applied Learning
Student employs knowledge in theory and practice

Intellectual Skills
Student logically approach issues using a variety of resources

Broad, Integrative Knowledge
Student examines problems from a range of perspectives

Specialized Knowledge
Student demonstrates knowledge of the field

*according to www.luminafoundation.org

FUNDING FORMULA

Paino said that there currently are three different general approaches to funding formulas in higher education including formulas based on enrollment, mission and performance outcome, Paino said.

Paino said that while a formal funding formula model has not been formally purposed, the model staffers presented based on a theoretical formula model determines 90 percent of the funding from enrollment and 10 percent from performance, Paino said. A funding formula primarily based on enrollment is counter to the University's mission and a liberal arts education, Paino said, because when

Truman underwent its mission change, it became a selective liberal arts and sciences institution. If the formula is based on enrollment, Paino said he will have to find new ways to increase enrollment.

Faculty members shared the concern about the enrollment-based funding formula, and during the State of the University address, geography professor Wolfgang Hoeschele asked Paino if the legislature chose the enrollment-based funding formula, if the formula would effectively revoke Truman's mission. Paino said that while the mission officially would still be a liberal arts and science school, an en-

rollment based funding system would make it difficult to achieve our mission because it would emphasize quantity instead of quality.

"[An enrollment based funding formula] is going to cripple us for generations to come and make it increasingly difficult to fulfill our mission," Paino said. "To me, it's imperative to keep talking about quality, quality, quality, mission, mission, mission."

Paino said the problems of an enrollment-based system aren't limited to a liberal arts campus. He said he it would be in the best interest for higher education as a whole to find a way to evaluate the quality of education.

IDEA | University President Troy Paino discussed his idea to use the Degree Qualifications Profile to measure quality

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for different levels of these categories for associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees.

Paino said Truman could be a leader and an example of a way to measure the outcomes of a university based on quality. Paino said that because the University has successfully recruited great students, or inputs, Truman is struggling to prove that the University is providing students with a "value added" education.

Eventually, Paino said, the DQP could help demonstrate that Truman students aren't just achieving bachelor's level competencies, but also master's level skills.

While the exact role that this criteria will serve in the process of evaluating is unclear, Paino said he envisions some variation of the current funding formula, in which categories such as the percent of total expenditure on core mission, retention rates and graduation rates would be retained and the DQP's five criteria would be incorporated as a more robust way to measure the quality of student learning.

Paino said higher education is moving toward a competency-based degree system, in which students would have to demonstrate capability to receive a degree rather than completing a certain number of credit hours or course requirements. Two other institutions in Missouri, Columbia College and Westminster College, already use the DQP. Three universities that are members of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges along with Truman currently use a version of the DQP including Southern Utah University, the University of Montevallo and Southern Oregon University, according to the list of schools on the Lumina website. Paino said the four of the five current criteria that Truman met that is used to determine state funding is based off comparing Truman to the other COPLAC schools' performance to evaluate sustained excellence in comparison to our peer group schools.

Eventually, incorporating this system might lead to faculty reevaluating required classes, coursework and the way the University approaches, constructs and evaluates senior portfolios to intentionally incorporate these five categories into the curriculum. Currently, Paino said the University's system is exoskeletal, meaning the current evaluation standards are not embedded in the day-to-day coursework, but instead inserted as a measurement tool for senior portfolios.

Janet Gooch, School of Health and Exercise Science Dean, said many departments within her school, such as nursing, already have professional standards that define what skills graduates should be able to achieve that are embedded in the curriculum. This puts her school, and other programs across campus, such as accounting, ahead of the curve, she said, because they already use these professional competencies to evaluate students.

For now, Paino said he wants faculty members to be curious about the DQP and attend the University Conference Day break out session where Paino and others will discuss the DQP and what this means for Truman.

MAIL | Saturday mail delivery will end next year, but package delivery will continue

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will reduce Saturday hours or if the will close entirely during the weekends, said Roger Marsh, Campus Mail Services Director. However, Marsh said the campus mailroom will continue to stay open and deliver packages to residence halls.

"I talked with John [Gardner] and Zac, and they were concerned that the on campus students would not be getting the same level of service as student living off campus would be," Marsh said.

Marsh said Residence Life had enough mail traffic to continue "limited package service" during Saturdays, which means the mailroom will focus specifically on delivering packages.

"We looked at the number of package deliveries on Saturdays, and we agreed that the volume was high enough to merit continuing deliveries," Burden said.

Marsh said only one student worker will work in the mailroom on Saturdays next year instead of three, that currently work Saturdays. However, student workers are not expected to lose any of their scholarship hours, Marsh said.

"Everything is factored into total hours that student mailroom workers work for the semester," Marsh said. "So if a worker worked four hours on Saturday, then they'll just work those hours on Monday through Friday."

Ryle Hall mail clerk senior Nicole Findley said stopping Saturday mail service won't affect her much.

"I only work every other Saturday, so in terms of scheduling for my scholarship job, it wouldn't have much of an impact," Findley said.

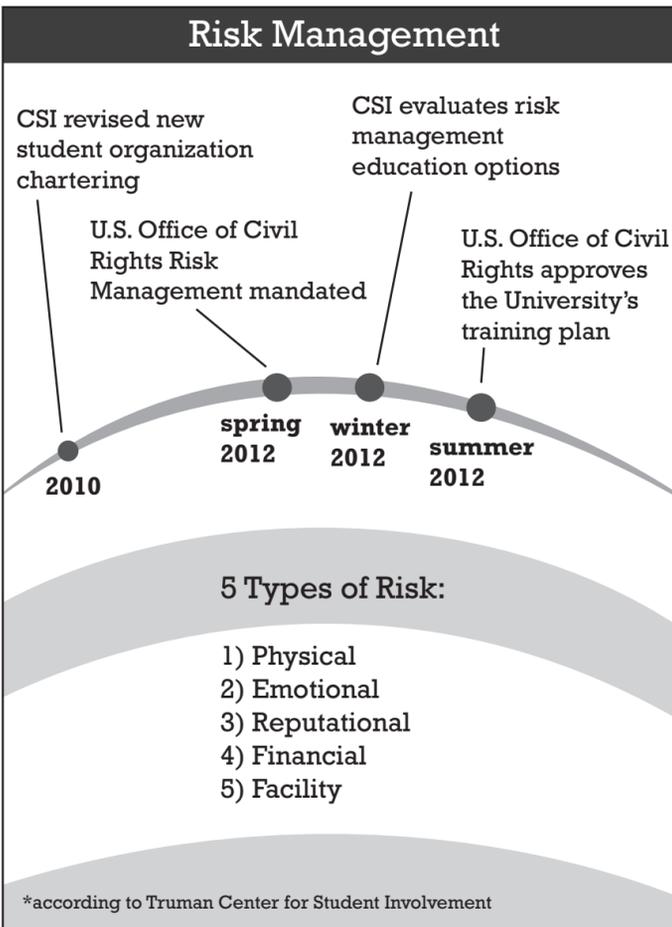
Findley said though there would be more mail to sort through Mondays, her workload still would be manageable.

Marsh said the Postal Service is making a good decision by cutting Saturday deliveries, but it won't solve the fiscal problem.

"Even with them saving the \$2 billion they're talking about, they still need to make a lot of other changes to preserve what they have," Marsh said. "They're great at their job, but they need to make changes to stay current."

The Kirksville Post Office branch was unable to comment.

RISK | Risk management training is now required for all campus organizations



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emotional, reputational, financial and facility.

He said a main objective with the training will be to address all five categories, especially the categories that groups do not normally think about, such as reputational risk.

"We want to get groups to start thinking about other types of risk," Kennedy said. "It's easy for groups to just consider physical risk but reputational risk is certainly one that every group has a degree of. It's not necessarily something groups are always as cognizant of."

Junior Belinda Sell, Tau Lambda Sigma Risk Management Chair, said the main risk management activities TLS partakes in are related to alcohol safety.

She said she plans alcohol safety and risk management workshops for TLS with Department of Public Safety officers.

"It's going to be fun to see how the new training will benefit to the position" Sell said. "It is important to keep our members safe and find out how to keep them even safer."

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