

TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY INDEX

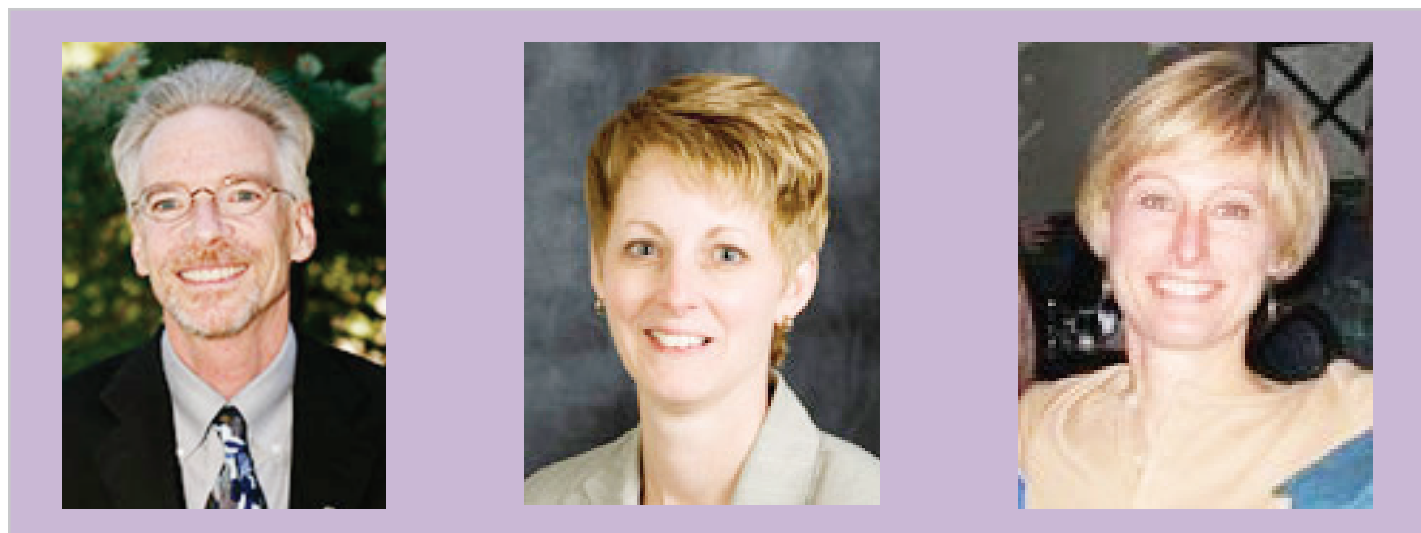
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President Paino reveals VPAA candidate finalists



Submitted photos
Vice President for Academic Affairs candidates James McDonald, left, Susan Thomas, center and Janet Gooch, right. The three finalists will each have an open forum April 22 to 24 in Violette Hall 1000 talk to Truman students and faculty.

BY AUSTIN HORNBOSTEL
Assistant News Editor

University President Troy Paino announced three finalists for the Vice President for Academic Affairs position at Truman State April 16. The finalists are James McDonald from Southern Utah University, Susan Thomas from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville and Janet Gooch from Truman.

The candidates will visit campus to meet and speak with individuals and constituencies April 22 to 28, according to a press release from Paino's office. Candidates will participate in an "All-University Open Forum" in Violette Hall 1000.

McDonald's forum will be April 23, Thomas's forum will be April 25 and Gooch's forum will be April 28. Each forum will take place from 10 to 11 a.m. on the specified day, according to the release.

Paino hopes Truman's faculty, staff and students will make an effort to attend the forum, according to the press release. A link to an electronic candidate evaluation form will be added to the VPAA search website next week, as well as a webcast of each forum shortly after it occurs.

"It is our hope that as many members of the Truman community as possible will be able to participate in the process," Paino said in the press release. "Input from the campus community is crucial to the success of the search."

Thomas, Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Program Development at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, said her position involves working with the Schools of Instruction and the College on Curriculum Development, budgetary issues and different kinds of strategic planning. She said the school's Office of Educational Outreach reports to her directly about non-credit programs, credit programs offered on-campus or online and programs offered to corporate partners such as regional healthcare organizations. Thomas said she receives reports from the school's Office of Retention and Student Success, which includes academic advising and instructional services such as tutoring and developmental coursework.

Thomas said she thinks her experience with SIUE would be transferable if she receives the VPAA position at Truman. She said she knows the VPAA is involved with many similar areas as her position at SIUE. Thomas said she hopes a good portion of Truman's community will attend her open forum since the VPAA position is essential at any school.

"It's so important for students to know," Thomas said. "So much of what they do on campus comes out of the Academic

Affairs side of the house."

Thomas said if she were to receive the position, her short-term goals include becoming well-integrated into the Truman community. She said she hopes to become a well-respected and contributing member of campus. Throughout the long-term, Thomas said she would like to help Truman become an impactful force in higher education. She said Truman is positioned well to fully realize its potential.

"Truman is enormously well-respected as a university — in terms of how it approaches education, in terms of what its students accomplish and achieve," Thomas said.

McDonald, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Southern Utah University, said his duties involve overseeing all of the academic programs in the College, faculty and new program development for SUU, which is the second largest school at Southern Utah.

He said he previously was employed as the Department Chair of Anthropology at the University of Texas San Antonio, where he served as an Associate Dean in the College of Sciences for a year and as an Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Development. McDonald said his background at UTSA gave him experience with development of policy and infrastructure and faculty development.

McDonald said he learned a lot about how university faculty can craft their careers from multiple vantage points. He said if he were to receive the VPAA position at Truman, he would bring his broad administrative experience to the forefront to make his time here a success. McDonald declined to elaborate about his goals if he receives the position.

"It would be remiss of me to be too descriptive," McDonald said. "I would really need to get to the University, meet with [all of its] constituencies, do some strategic planning and really immerse myself in the institution before crafting what Truman's next steps are in conjunction with [Paino] and other leadership. Really, it's a collaborative process."

McDonald said it is important each of the VPAA candidates are able to meet with as much of the Truman community as possible at their open forums. He said it is especially critical students' voices are heard in the process of narrowing down finalists.

Gooch, Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Education at Truman, declined to comment about her candidacy for the VPAA position.

"Input from the campus community is crucial to the success of the search."

Press release from the office of University President Troy Paino

FAC slate faces nine cuts for fall

BY CASEY WRIGHT
Staff Reporter

The Truman State Student Government Council's slate for the fall 2014 semester during their meeting April 13.

The FAC slate will fund many student organizations and club teams on campus. Senior Caroline Hamera, FAC Publicity Representative, said it can be difficult to divide up the allotted funds because everyone on the council differs in their opinions for who they would like to see receive funds.

For example, some people prefer bigger events that would draw a larger crowd, and others would rather have smaller events that would cater to more diverse crowds, Hamera said. She said it often is difficult to find a balance between the two.

Hamera said this semester's slate ran smoothly. She said the proposed large-scale events were the only thing that took the Council a while to discuss. Hamera said FAC only can allot groups \$5,000 per semester for an event and several organizations requested the full \$5,000. Hamera said because of FAC's tight budget, they could not afford to fully fund every organization, and it was difficult to decide who received funds because all of the events had merit, but they had to decide which they thought students would be most likely to attend.

According to the fall 2014 FAC slate, a total of nine groups were cut this year. Of these nine groups, six were FAC groups and three were Inter-Collegiate Activity groups. The ICA groups cut included Truman State Cheerleading as well as the Iron Dogs co-ed weight-lifting club and Sharpshooters recreational shooting club. FAC groups cut included Lambda Alpha Epsilon and Amnesty International, according to the FAC slate.

Although these groups were cut entirely, some groups who applied were granted the full funds they requested. The University Swingers and the Wildlife Society received the full funding amount they requested.

FAC Chair senior Emily Done said the FAC sometimes must cut funding to a group altogether, and those cuts are inevitable with the high amount of applications from organizations and FAC's limited monetary resources. She said the number of groups cut differs each semester, but usually there are about five to 10 organizations cut every semester. Done added this might seem like a high number but compared to the number of applications FAC receives, it actually is a low proportion.

Done said in most cases FAC's budget is limited, so they ask the organizations what the least amount of money they would need to fund an event would be. Other factors FAC considers are the amount of funding and whether or not an organization can be funded include how well the organization

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Inaugural fund raiser seeks to aid local needy

BY CLAYTON BERRY
Staff Reporter

Sophomore Nasreen Amaanath, Omicron Delta Kappa fundraising chair, hosted Truman State's first Hunger and Homelessness fundraiser April 14 to 18 in Magruder Hall.

Amaanath said Hunger and Homelessness Week is a canned food, toiletry and clothing drive for a local Kirksville food bank which has yet to be decided.

Amaanath said the fundraiser collected 91 non-perishable food items, 19 toiletry items, 20 articles of clothing and 12 miscellaneous items, as well as more than \$34 of donations. She said it was nice to collect items, but her main goal was to get the word out to students about the importance of helping others.

"Being a Muslim, my religion inspired me to serve other people," Amaanath said. "But you do not have to be Muslim to help people. It is also a personal reward."

As an incentive, she said a point system rewarded individual students based on how many items they donated. She said this system originally was planned for rewarding the most successful group of students, but she decided to move it to the individual level

since two particular students donated a large portion of the items.

Amaanath said she managed fundraising events throughout the past, so she wanted to work on something that could become an annual event for Truman.

Amaanath said this year's Hunger and Homelessness fundraiser was a trial and error experience for hosting events, but she wants this fundraiser to have daily events with thorough preparation and advertising in the future. She said she wants campus organizations continue to get involved by supporting future events and raising awareness.

"As we get older, we realize God has given us two hands," Amaanath said. "One is to help ourselves and the other is to help people."

ODK President junior Chris Gross said he was happy Amaanath chose to involve ODK in her quest for support. Gross said the Truman ODK circle is a National Leadership Honors Society composed of driven individuals. He said their organization is interested in co-hosting events but is selective about who receives direct support unless they show a strong initiative for change. He said Amaanath is one of those driven and service-oriented individuals, so ODK was happy to help.

Gross said he and other members

of the ODK circle gave Amaanath input about event coordination, preparations and how to donate the food locally. He said she had a \$50 budget but only used a very small amount of it.

"We can do these kinds of things for the community, and we have resources," Gross said. "However, some people, even in Kirksville, do not have as much as us, and it is important to be aware of that."

Junior Morgan Bredow, Beta Beta Beta service co-chair, said she thinks Hunger and Homelessness Week needed to happen. Bredow said Amaanath approached her last summer about potential fundraising ideas and decided on Hunger and Homelessness Week a few months ago.

She said she was glad members of Tri-Beta decided to help by working table shifts and spreading the word. Bredow said Tri-Beta was busy throughout the year hosting a variety of events, so she was thankful a student gave them an opportunity to directly help the poor of Kirksville. She said she is looking forward to the results of the Hunger and Homelessness program.

"This is a great way to give safely and directly to those in need," Bredow said. "These events need to be done, so every little thing counts."

Hunger and Homelessness fundraiser proceeds

April 14 to 18

91 non-perishable items

19 toiletry items

20 articles of clothing

12 miscellaneous items

\$34 of monetary donations

Source:
Omicron Delta Kappa fundraising chair,
sophomore Nasreen Amaanath