

# Paino gives Last Lecture on saying goodbye

BY PAIGE YUNGERMANN  
Staff Writer

As University President Troy Paino's time at Truman State comes to a close, he gave his final speech as part of the Student Activities Board's Last Lecture series.

This lecture, "On Saying Goodbye: The Power of Letting Go," was one of Paino's last opportunities to address the Truman community because he is leaving this summer to become president of the University of Mary Washington.

"It really [was] my opportunity to express to people in this community how much they've meant to me and how much they continue to mean to me, but also afford[ed] me an opportunity to say goodbye," Paino said.

Paino's lecture was about his life and the people who have impacted it. He said he wanted the speech to focus on the value of community and relationships. Paino also shared photos as part of the lecture.

Paino said he was asked to talk in the Last Lecture series before, but he declined because the timing did not seem right at the time, and he thought there were other faculty members who should speak as part of the series before he did.

"When they asked this time, it seemed to make sense given my impending departure from Truman," Paino said. "In that sense, I could really get into the spirit of things and try to say everything I'd like to say before I go."

While he has given a lot of talks at Truman State before, Paino said he never has done anything quite like the Last Lecture series. He said he has not talked directly to the Truman community like this since his installation address

in 2010, when he became University president. He said this lecture was different from that one because the Last Lecture was more informal.

Paino said he is glad students came to his lecture because Truman students have had a big impact on his life.

"This was my opportunity to tell them what they've meant to me personally, and how they've influenced me and forever changed me," Paino said. "It [was] also an opportunity for me to talk about why I think it's time for me to go, and as difficult as that is, why it's important for me to let go at this stage in my life."

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Although this was his last lecture at Truman and he is leaving in a few weeks, Paino said he will come back to visit Truman regularly.

Paino also said he will continue to contribute to the scholarships he started and maintain the relationships he has here.

"Truman will always be a part of me, and I hope to always be a part of Truman," Paino said. "The relationships I've built will always be a part of my life. I want to stay connected to those people. Some of the people I work very closely with each

day are not only my colleagues, they have also become my dear friends, so it's important for me to stay connected, and I will always come back to Kirksville and to Truman."

Freshman Mary-Kate Mudd, Student Activities Board event chair, said Paino's speech was the final Last Lecture of the semester. Mudd said this series gives Truman faculty the opportunity to give Truman students advice as if it were the last lecture they will ever give.

When Mudd got Paino's campus-wide email about leaving Truman, she said she saw an opportunity to have him give a Last Lecture. While the series was already finalized for the semester, she contacted Paino about giving a Last Lecture as a finale to the series.

Mudd said past series speakers have been academic advisers and professors, including psychology professor Sal Costa, Communication Department Chair Jay Self and English professor Brent Orton.

The Last Lecture series is something SAB has done in the past, Mudd said, but until this year, it had not done the series since 2013.

The past lectures have taken place in smaller venues like the SUB Alumni Room. However, Paino's lecture took place in Baldwin Auditorium because it had a higher turnout compared to these past lectures.

Freshman Mara Stewart said she attended Paino's Last Lecture because she had not heard him speak since she participated in Truman Week her freshman year. She said she wanted the opportunity to hear him speak again before he leaves Truman.

"I really like T-Pain as a person," Stewart said. "It's going to be weird to have a new person in charge."

# TLS hosts charity dinner

BY JACK DERBAK  
Staff Writer

Tau Lambda Sigma hosted an international dinner Monday April 25 to promote Outreach International, a nonprofit organization focused on finding solutions to poverty.

The event, called Pass the Plate, took place at the Baptist Student Union Building. The food served at the dinner was from some of the 10 countries Outreach International currently works with, including Bolivia, Haiti, Nicaragua and India.

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**"I chose Outreach International because it's an organization that I've been passionate about and wanting to fundraise for since I was a kid."**

-Senior Anna Cox, TLS fundraising officer

Outreach International has been working toward finding sustainable solutions to worldwide poverty since 1979. The organization thinks "giving a gift without educating a community on how to use, repair, or nurture it is no gift at all — instead it delays the hard work of actually resolving a problem," according to the group's website.

Outreach International uses participatory human development, which is a process for problem-solving for poverty. This process focuses more on people that are a part of a community with a problem such as poverty so they can help their communities without being directly offered a solution, according to the group's website.

Senior Anna Cox, TLS fundraising officer, said

while the sorority usually does service and fundraising projects, this is the first fundraising dinner event the sorority has hosted.

"I chose Outreach International because it's an organization that I've been passionate about and wanting to fundraise for since I was a kid," Cox said.

Cox said unlike other charities, Outreach International teaches people they are capable of changing their lives for the better.

Cox said she previously had been involved in a local foods dinner last year with the Environmental Campus Organization, which she said inspired her to put on a similar dinner with TLS.

Kevin Prine, Outreach International president and CEO, said he cancelled a trip to Nepal to speak at the event and talked about the issues of poverty and what people can do to help.

Prine said he searched for practical solutions to problems such as poverty throughout his career, and he said development projects alone do not address the causes of poverty. Prine said he has been a part of Outreach International since January 2012 and has donated to the organization since 1991.

Rick Lindgren, Outreach International board member, said he has seen how donor contributions help poverty-stricken communities, and he has personally seen how donor contributions change the lives of all people in a self-funded site visit to the Bolivian Andes.

Kathy Robinson, former outreach board chair, said she recently traveled to Malawi with Outreach International, and she said the people Outreach International invests in their priority issue of poverty and improve their living conditions."

For more information about Outreach International, contact Special Projects Manager Charlotte Belshe at c.belshe@outreachmail.org.



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