



Submitted photo

Sodexo has plans to renovate the Mainstreet Market following Truman State's decision to extend the company's contract to 2021. The Mainstreet Market will say goodbye to the Original Burger Company and hello to Chick-fil-A, Mein Bowl and Slice of Life.

**Sodexo** | Sodexo plans to bring in new franchises as part of their renovations which are expected to be completed Aug. 1, 2016..Sodexo uses surveys to determine what students want from Sodexo.

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 during Sodexo's semester surveys and will continue to meet with Lou Ann Gilchrist, Vice President of Student Affairs, twice a month to ensure students are satisfied with the food options.  
 "I use all of the surveys to try to figure out what students really want," Cunningham said. "If it is affordable, and if it is attainable, then we will implement it."  
 Dave Rector, Vice President for Administration, Financing and Planning, said he thinks the renovation will be a significant long-term food service and capital investment for the University because he said the Mainstreet Market was last renovated about 20 years ago. He said the University will be paying for the renovation, but he said all the money will come from the Food Service Reinvestment Fund, which is the revenue collected by the University from Sodexo's food services once Sodexo passes its 3.5 percent annual profit caps. Rector said it likely will be an expensive project, but the fund has been accumulating for several years, bringing in \$200-250,000 a year.

He said the fund should cover the Mainstreet Market costs the same way it covered Centennial Hall's kitchen renovation and the newly built Starbucks.  
 Rector said he will have an estimate of the project cost once the University has the opportunity to review the Sodexo contractor's budget proposal.  
 Rector said the University and Sodexo have had a strong partnership since Sodexo first was contracted about 15 years ago, which he said was a big reason the University decided to renew the contract a semester early. He said many people don't know the University owns all the equipment Sodexo uses. Rector said Sodexo gets to use Truman's equipment as an incentive to provide good service to students, while he said the 15 percent commission from Sodexo's cash sales and catering goes directly toward the SUB's general budget.  
 Rector said the contract can be broken by either party at the end of each academic year, but the University has kept Sodexo because of its cost-efficient operations, which he said is also

why no other major food service providers bid against Sodexo in the most recent competitive contract bid during spring 2011.  
 "Sodexo's incentive, and [Cunningham's] really good on this, is to try to keep the price as reasonable as possible," Rector said.  
 Gilchrist said she is Truman's main liaison with Sodexo and oversees Sodexo's day-to-day operations in the dining halls and Mainstreet Market. She said she is also the head of the Food Service Committee that makes sure Sodexo is meeting students' needs. Gilchrist said she meets with the committee once a semester and with Cunningham twice a month to collaborate about the dining services. She said they talk about ways to keep costs reasonable for students, such as removing foods students typically don't eat, while still keeping plenty of options available. She said the committee also completes a formal yearly review to maintain the overall quality of Sodexo's services.  
 Gilchrist said Educational Benchmarking Inc. sends out

an annual survey that is used by Residence Life to rate and compare Truman's food service provider with hundreds of other higher learning institutions throughout the nation that also use EBI. She said EBI can be used to rate a variety of campus services but in this case, Truman uses it to rate its food service provider and aspects such as food quality and dining hall hours on a one to seven scale. Gilchrist said these results are used to calculate an overall rating of the food service provider. She said EBI considers any score above a five to be strong, and Truman's Sodexo consistently ranks above this mark.  
 Gilchrist said she is glad Truman and Sodexo are able to work together effectively and students have an opportunity to share their opinions.  
 "We did make this [contract renewal] decision because we believe it gives us the best options to serve student's needs and wants," Gilchrist said. "I'm pretty confident that we will have a fairly competitive food service well into the future with this deal."

**Energy** | Campus-wide building renovations are expected to help reduce Truman's total environmental impact by reducing the amount of carbon dioxide emissions

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 Rector said he and Physical Plant Director Karl Schneider got the idea for these updates about a year ago after learning about other universities that had completed projects similar to this one.  
 Rector said another benefit of these updates is they are good publicity for Truman.  
 "The whole sustainability focus is something students are really interested in right now," Rector said. "It's a kind of recruiting tool because you might say, 'That place aligns with me by not wasting energy, not polluting, not putting any more load on the environment than we have to.' That's our philosophy. We want to make it as energy-efficient as makes sense."  
 Schneider said the environmental benefits primarily will come from reduced carbon dioxide generation and less water usage. He said once the updates are complete, the University is expected to emit 20 million fewer pounds of carbon dioxide annually — the equivalent of taking 2,000 cars off the road — and reduce annual water usage by about 8.5 million gallons—enough to fill about 14 Olympic sized swimming pools.  
 Chief Information Officer Donna Liss said one group that has been involved in implementing these updates is the President's Sustainability Action Committee, which she chairs. She said this committee considers how to make the University more sustainable in terms of the environment, people and finances. She also said during the past, this group has worked to install solar panels on some of the university buildings.  
 Liss said these updates will allow Truman to save money.  
 "We have got to be able to better manage our utility costs, especially when you look at how our electrical costs are going up every year," Liss said. "This is a way to better manage our costs. We really don't have a choice."

**Planetarium to serve as new resource**

BY RACHEL FECHTER  
 Staff Reporter

Science and astronomy aficionados now have two venues to view the night sky.  
 The Del and Norma Robison Planetarium and Multimedia Theater is now open for Truman State organizations and members of the Kirksville community. The observatory, another facility located at the University Farm, is a place where Truman students in astronomy clubs or classes and Kirksville citizens can look at objects in the night sky — some of which are hundreds and thousands of light years away — through a telescope.  
 Junior Elizabeth Miesner, planetarium committee member and honorary Stargazers Club member, said the observatory and planetarium are two different entities she and many others can use to appreciate space.  
 "The planetarium shows an image of Saturn up on a screen, but going out to the observatory you can go physically see Saturn," Miesner said. "The planetarium does a good job educating people about a wide variety of topics while the observatory does a good job educating people about what's currently up in the sky."  
 The planetarium is used for understanding and analyzing outer space, displaying graphic design projects for the visual communication department, hosting poetry readings for the English department and being used as a set backdrop for theatre department productions.  
 Senior Will Melvin,

Stargazers Club president, said the planetarium positively impacts the whole student body, not just science majors.  
 "[The planetarium] reaches people's liberal arts education experience," Melvin said. "It provides people with access to facilities that they wouldn't otherwise have access to. You can read about something in a book, but it'd be like having a biology class and never dissecting anything, or being a theatre major and reading plays but never actually participating in one, or a music major who never performs. It gives you actual hands-on experiences."  
 Physics professor Vayujeet Gokhale said the planetarium is an excellent resource for Truman faculty and staff as well as anyone interested in science.  
 "We are hoping we get people from the Kirksville general public to come," Gokhale said. "The University is not an isolated island. It should give back to the community that hosts it."  
 After the planetarium opened, Gokhale said he hoped it would excite the natural curiosity about astronomy he thinks many people have and that Truman is lucky to have these facilities available to staff and students.  
 "Astronomy is one of those rare sciences, I think that almost everyone is fascinated by to some extent," Gokhale said. "The same can't be said about physics, computer science, or even chemistry or biology. Astronomy is a little softer in the sense that we've all seen stars, we've all seen the moon, we've all seen the sun, so we're curious intrinsically."

**Senate approves rule changes and creation of sexual assault committee**

BY EMILY MERKLE  
 Staff Reporter

Student Government approved two new committees, created a new position, and discussed filling a student representative to the Truman State Board of Governors position last Sunday.  
 The committees and position are temporary for the school year unless they are passed by the student body during fall elections, in which case they will become standing positions for years to come.  
 Junior J.J. Dorrell, Student Government Vice President, said Student Government is hoping the representative will be a student who is interested in working to solve issues around campus. Dorrell said because it is a two-year position, Student Government is looking for a freshman or sophomore. He said following the application process, Student Government will select a panel of students, and the chosen representative will be appointed personally by Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon.  
 Senior Molly Turner, Student Government President, said the two-year representative position is important because it provides a student voice for the highest governing body on campus. Turner said the application process is lengthy, but the position is a prestigious one.  
 "It's a good position for people who want to get involved with Student

Government that maybe don't get in the election," Turner said. "For anyone that's interested in being a part of Student Government this is a pretty big position and it's very important for not only Student Government, but the Board of Governors."  
 Turner said Student Government approved the new appointed position of Legislative Director. Turner said the responsibilities of this position will include researching bills passed at the state and national levels. She said recently passed bills have affected Student Government's ability to enact changes students want to see on campus. Turner said the Legislative Director will help Student Government better understand laws that must be followed when making changes around campus.  
 Turner said the two new committees are a Health, Wellness and Safety committee and a Sexual Assault Prevention committee. She said for now, the committees are operating as ad-hoc committees, but the student body will have a chance to vote on whether they will become permanent during the fall elections.  
 Turner said the Sexual Assault Prevention committee will operate under the Health, Wellness and Safety committee. Turner said the larger committees focus on a wide variety of topics, but by making Sexual Assault Prevention a sub-committee, a Student Government member

will be able to assist the chair for the Sexual Assault Prevention committee. She said this allows the committee to focus on the more specific topic of sexual assault prevention under the guidance of an experienced Student Government member.  
 Turner said the idea for the Health, Wellness and Safety committee came about after Student Government received several complaints last semester. She said Student Government didn't know who was supposed to handle these complaints and often, members had to be temporarily assigned these concerns which took time from their primary duties. Turner said the goal for this new committee is to have members dedicated to addressing these concerns to improve communication with campus.  
 Senior Zach Hollstrom, chair of the ad-hoc Health, Wellness and Safety committee, said there hasn't been a Health, Wellness and Safety committee for several years, so there is no existing precedent for how the committee should be run. He said he has a few preliminary ideas, but nothing has been discussed or proposed yet. Hollstrom said a few of his ideas for the committee include concussion awareness, disability structures and street lighting. Hollstrom said the committees will be assembled after all Student Government positions are filled following fall elections.