Temporary Computer Lab in Library Returns to Original Use But Adds New Purpose

The Student Union Building Quiet Lounge may be closed for renovation, but students still have a place to study beneath the University’s presidential portraits.

Several years ago the Reading Room in Pickler Memorial Library was temporarily converted to a computer lab for students.

When it came time to replace the old computers in that lab the Library and ITS staff decided to consolidate the temporary lab with the computer lab in Pickler Memorial Library 312. This consolidation would make better use of space available and save lab management costs. It also allowed the staff to return the Reading Room to its original intended purpose. In addition to housing 12 large reading tables and soft wing back chairs, the room now houses the University’s presidential portraits that had been hanging in the Student Union Building Quiet Lounge, but were removed due to the construction in the Student Union Building.

“The scale of the Library Reading Room was perfect for the portraits, which are such an important part of Truman’s history,” said Richard Coughlin, chief information officer and dean of libraries and museums. “The room provides a dignified space for the portraits while the portraits add color and interest to the room. The staff is also planning on adding additional electrical outlets so students can plug in laptop computers or other devices.”

Truman Joins Largest Teach-In in U.S. History

On Jan. 30 and 31, Truman State University will participate in Focus the Nation, an unprecedented teach-in model on global warming solutions.

“Today’s college students are truly the greatest generation,” says Lewis & Clark professor of economics Eban Goodstein, author and project director for Focus the Nation. “No other generation has ever had to face this kind of civilizational challenge. And we as educators would be failing if we did not prepare them with the tools to meet this challenge.”

Focus the Nation has created a teach-in model centered on the three most essential pillars for today’s youth to embrace solutions to global warming: education, civic engagement and leadership.

“We are in a time where critical decisions need to be made on global warming, which means today’s leaders and the youth who will inherit the crisis need serious education on the issue,” said James “Gus” Speth, dean, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. “Focus The Nation is our country’s foremost model to create that level of education and interaction with law makers.”

The teach-in will kick off the night of Jan. 30, with the viewing of a new film, “Revolution Green: A True Story of Biodiesel in America.” This event will take place in the Student Union Building Georgian Room.

B. As part of the event, a discussion after the film will be lead by the Focus the Nation group.

The next day, Jan. 31, will include a range of global warming curricula presented by faculty and guest speakers before culminating with the Motivating Action round-table discussion between students and elected leaders on solutions to the crisis. Student Senate President Matt Szewczyk and Rep. Rebecca McClanahan will be present. Truman invites local, regional and national civic leaders to engage in the Motivating Action round-table.

The final piece of Focus the Nation’s teach-in model will be the Choose Your Future vote. All students, faculty and community participants will be encouraged to vote on what they think are the top five solutions from a list of 10 to 15 and are available at http://www.focusthenation.org. Vote results will be presented nationally in mid-February. All students who vote on the Choose Your Future ballot will be eligible to win a $10,000 leadership scholarship for a project to be completed by end of August 2008.

For more information on Truman Focus the Nation, log on to http://www.focusthenation.org or e-mail Samantha Pounders at trumanfocusthenation@gmail.com.
Truman’s John R. Kirk Chapter of Blue Key Receives Distinguished Awards at National Conference

The John R. Kirk Chapter of Blue Key received more than leadership skills at the Blue Key National Honor Society National Conference held Jan. 18-20 at North Dakota State University in Fargo, N.D. The chapter was awarded Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award for being the top chapter in the nation. Adam Harrold, president of Truman’s Blue Key chapter, was awarded the President Award, for his selfless dedication to the organization. Harrold is a senior biology major from Gladstone, Mo.

The chapter also was recognized with a Certificate of Merit as well as Best Feature Award for their Web site. Whitey Holt, service chair of Truman’s Blue Key chapter, was extremely proud of the awards they received. Holt is a junior history and pre-education/secondary double major from Clayton, Mo.

“The guys have put a large amount of time and energy into Blue Key in order to become more involved in the betterment of the community,” Holt said. “It’s nice to get recognized because then you feel like your efforts are truly well spent.”

Founded on Truman’s campus in 1925, Blue Key is a selective group of about 35 undergraduates of men who live by the motto “Serving, I live.”

RecreycleMania Kicks Off at Truman

Truman State University has kicked off the start of RecycleMania this week. RecycleMania is a friendly competition among college and university recycling programs across the United States. During 10 weeks each spring, schools compete in different contests to see which institution can collect the largest amount of recyclables per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables, the least amount of trash per capita, or have the highest recycling rate. Schools report measurements on a weekly basis.

RecycleMania began in 2001 as a competition between Ohio University and Miami University of Ohio and has grown tremendously each year.

Students, faculty and staff can help Truman beat schools in Missouri and the United States by recycling items such as aluminum cans, paper, corrugated cardboard, glass and plastics.

Last year, Truman placed fourth overall in the bottles and cans category and ninth overall in the Per Capita Classic competition. In the Per Capita Classic competition schools are competing to collect the largest amount of acceptable recyclables per person. Two hundred and two schools participated last year and more than 400 have signed up to participate in 2008.

For more information, contact Howard Worcester, recycle coordinator, at 785.7672.
NOTABLES

Taner Edis, associate professor of physics, had “Religion: Accident or Design?” published as a chapter in Joseph Bulbulia et al., eds., The Evolution of Religion: Studies, Theories, & Critiques (Santa Margarita: Collins Foundation Press, 2008).

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest, largest, and most selective all-discipline honor society, will be awarding 50 study abroad grants of $1,000 each. Because Truman has a Phi Kappa Phi chapter, Truman students in any field of study are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Students do not need to be a member of Phi Kappa Phi to apply. To be eligible, students must have between 30 and 90 credit hours by the deadline of Feb. 18, have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5, have at least two semesters remaining in residence at Truman after completing the study abroad experience, and the study abroad program must be taken between May 1, 2008, and June 30, 2009. More than one student at an institution can receive the award. Last year, Truman student Amy Bockelman was awarded one of these grants. To learn more about the competition and to obtain application materials, visit http://www.phikappaphi.org/Web/Scholarships/studyabroad.html. Winners will be announced by April 18.

ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship applications are now being accepted. For the second consecutive year, ThinkSwiss will select 15 talented and motivated United States students from all fields of study who have applied for a research project at a Swiss university or research lab. The awardees will receive a monthly stipend of $700 for a period of up to three months. The ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship program takes place within the scope of the ThinkSwiss program. “ThinkSwiss - Brainstorm the future” is a U.S.-wide program on Education, Research and Innovation. It focuses on the exchange of expertise and know-how in academia and the business community in both Switzerland and the U.S. This program is produced under the auspices of Presence Switzerland (PRS), the Swiss State Secretariat for Education and Research (SER) and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. Additional information about the 2008 ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship can be found on http://www.thinkswiss.org/news.html. The deadline for applications is March 31.

Foundation scholarship applications are available and qualified, deserving students are encouraged to apply. More than $582,000 was awarded in Foundation scholarships to Truman State University students in 2007-2008. Applications are available online and are due by midnight Feb. 28. To learn more, go to http://www.truman.edu, Student Life/Money/Foundation Scholarships or log on to https://secure.truman.edu/isupport-sl/.

Career Center Welcomes Back Students

The Career Center staff and career assistants would like to welcome students back to Truman and wish them a great semester.

Soon approaching is the Career Expo, which will take place from 1-5 p.m. Feb. 27 in the Student Union Building. Interviews for full-time positions and internships are Feb. 28, also in the Student Union Building. More specific information about events will be available in the upcoming weeks, including a program on Feb. 25 called “Expo 411.” This event will help students prepare for Expo by providing résumé assistance, information on signing up for Expo, and making the most out of the Expo experience. Refreshments will be provided during the program.

For those students seeking feedback and guidance on their interviewing skills from those who were employed in various facets of industry, the Career Center is offering Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) mock interviews on Feb. 8, 15 and 22. Also, to create or revise a résumé, a group of career assistants is available without appointment to help.

Compost Film Festival

Calling all filmmakers.

The Compost Project is sponsoring a film festival this spring. The subject of all films will be related to composting. Information regarding various topics can be accessed on the U-drive under the folder “Compost Film Festival”. In Michael Kelrick’s folder (biology department) in order to aid filmmakers in making entertaining short films which are also educational.

Film submissions are due in DVD format to Kelrick’s office door (Magruder Hall 3024) by 5 p.m. Feb. 10. Resources to aide in film production are listed in a document on the Compost Film Festival U-drive folder. The films will be judged by parties who are not affiliated with the Compost Project. The festival, including the awarding of prizes, will occur soon after spring break.

Any inquiries, interest or additional information can be addressed to Ginger Daugherty at ged106@truman.edu or tsu.compost@gmail.com.

Physics Colloquium:

“Thinking on Multiple Scales of Space, Time and Organization”

Featuring speaker Philip Fraundorf from the University of Missouri-St. Louis

4:30 p.m.

Jan. 30

Magruder Hall 1096

This event will highlight regional stories of nanoworld adventure, interstellar dust in the lab and surprisal-based information measures. Snacks will be provided before the talk.

For more information about the colloquium series and upcoming talks, please visit http://physics.truman.edu.

Truman Intramural Recreational Sports Planner

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>*Captains’ Meeting</th>
<th>Play Begins</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Super Bowl Pickem</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Feb. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Racquetball - Doubles</td>
<td>Open/Org/Greek</td>
<td>Feb. 4</td>
<td>N/A (Jan. 31)</td>
<td>Feb. 18</td>
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Entry forms and information sheets may be picked up at the Student Recreation Center (lobby area). Entry forms are to be deposited into the metal box located at the Member Services Desk in the Student Recreation Center. The entry deadline for each sport will be 11 p.m. on the date posted above. Online registration is available. *Captains’ Meetings for each sport will take place on the Thursday evening following the entry deadline (unless otherwise noted) at 4:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Student Recreation Center. Official rules for each sport are available online at http://recreation.truman.edu.

The SChOlARShIP OPPORTUNITIES section discusses the Phi Kappa Phi Scholarship, ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship, and Foundation scholarships. The Career Center section highlights the Career Expo and SCORE mock interviews. The Compost Film Festival section invites filmmakers to submit films related to composting. The Physics Colloquium section features a talk on the latest research in interstellar dust and surprisal-based information measures. The Intramural Recreational Sports Planner section provides details on upcoming intramural sports events.
A van driving class is scheduled for 10 a.m. Jan. 29 and 30 in the Public Safety Building. Please allow three hours for the class. Class size is limited. Please reserve your space by calling 785.4177 or e-mailing joycemul@truman.edu.

Auditions for Truman Live, Truman’s live talent show, will take place from 6-9 p.m. Jan. 29 in Baldwin Auditorium. Contact the Student Activities Board at 785.4722 or sab@truman.edu for more information.

The Student Recreation Center (SRC) will be hosting a free nutrition workshop at 7 p.m. Jan. 29. Liz Jorn, from the health and exercise science department, will be covering topics such as how to plan a healthy diet while avoiding common mistakes, guidelines on how to lose weight safely and effectively, and how to make long-term behavioral changes. All Truman students, faculty and staff are welcome. The workshop will take place in the SRC Conference Room, located on the second floor. Contact Karen Skoch at 785.7739 or kskoch@truman.edu for more information. Prizes will be awarded to the first 20 participants.

The Weekly Lunch Series reconvenes from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Jan. 30 in the Student Union Building Georgian Room A. This week’s session will be “How I Paved My Road to Sabbatical with More Than Good Intentions” featuring Marc Rice, associate professor of music.

P.A.T.C.H.-Supporting Students with Incurable Illnesses will meet from 8-9:30 p.m. Jan. 30 in Pershing Building 234. P.A.T.C.H. meets weekly and is an organization that provides support from fellow students, faculty and staff with incurable illnesses to other students, faculty and staff with incurable illnesses in a safe, confidential environment with a lot of fun. Contact Jeffrey Eaton at jme750@truman.edu for more information.

Weekly Lunch Extra Edition Thursdays begins Jan. 31 featuring Jay Bulen, associate professor of music and department chair. He will lead the annual Reading Circle on “Privilege, Power and Difference” by Allan Johnson. All Weekly Lunch Extra Edition Thursday sessions will meet from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Student Union Building Room 322. Lunch will be provided so people should go directly to the room. This series will also meet Feb. 7, 14 and 28.

IT Services invites faculty, staff and students to TechBreak at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 1 in Violette Hall 1300. Additional details and the topic schedule can be found at http://its.truman.edu/techbreak.

The Board of Governors will meet at 10 a.m. Feb. 2 in the Student Union Building Activities Room. Agenda materials can be found on the Board of Governors Web site at http://governors.truman.edu.

The Mostly Live Composers Society will present a recital of original student concert music from 3:30-4:20 p.m. Feb. 5 in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall. The audience will be treated to world premiere performances of original vocal and instrumental works by several Truman student composers. Featured will be the Truman premiere of “Elegy for Strings” by Kevin Becker, a composition which won both the Music Teachers National Association (West Central Division) competition and the Missouri Music Teachers Association competition this year and is currently a finalist for a national award. Admission is free.

A Special Olympics informational meeting will take place from 8:30-9:30 p.m. Feb. 5 in Baldwin Hall 252. Students who would like to volunteer to help with the Special Olympics Spring Games on April 19 may attend. Student organizations are also welcome but are asked to send one representative.

The Black History Knowledge Bowl will take place from 7-8:30 p.m. Feb. 7 in the Student Union Building Georgian Room B. Students are invited to test their knowledge on historical accounts, famous individuals and interesting facts in African American history. Teams of three or four can sign up in the Student Affairs Board Office in the Student Union Building or the Multicultural Affairs Center in the Adair Building. Contact Laura Bates at labetes@truman.edu for more information.

Service Corps of Retired Executives mock interviews will take place from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 8, 15 and 22 in the Career Center. This is a great opportunity to gain interviewing experience with professionals from a variety of career fields. In-person advanced sign-up with a résumé is required at least 24 hours before the interview date. Interviews are 45 minutes in length including helpful advice to improve your skills, and professional business attire is required. Time slots fill quickly, so do not delay.

Beta Alpha Psi will be sponsoring Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 23, March 1, March 29 and April 5 in Violette Hall 1424. The members will give income tax assistance to students and the community and file their tax return electronically for free. Additional information is available at http://bap.truman.edu/eventsVITA.htm.

The College of Arts and Sciences has an opening for work-study or scholarship workers to fill a position of general office duties. Please contact svorhees@truman.edu or 785.7200 for more information.

Ask-A-Librarian Service
Reference librarians will answer information questions, either by telephone (785.4051) or by e-mail (asklib@truman.edu). Get a response as soon as possible (usually within 12 hours except when the library is closed). Ask-A-Librarian cannot give legal, medical or tax-related advice; librarians can, however, help users locate materials on these topics.

Truman Today is a weekly publication of Truman State University for students, faculty and staff. Deadline for entries is 5 p.m., the Wednesday preceding Tuesday’s publication. Entries should be submitted by sending an e-mail to truman.kbest@gmail.com or by completing a Truman Today form available in the Public Relations Office, McClain Hall 101. The form may also be accessed online at http://trumantoday.truman.edu/submissionform.pdf. All submissions are subject to editing for clarity and style.

ON CAMPUS
2 SATURDAY
10 a.m.-Board of Governors Meeting, Student Union Building Activities Room; see Notes
4 MONDAY
8 p.m.-Guest Artist Recital: Chris Moore, Trumpet, Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall