Coughlin Appointed Acting Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Search Committee Formed

Richard Coughlin, dean of the library, has agreed to serve as Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs beginning May 10 until the Provost position is filled.

Coughlin will be assisting current provost Troy Paino during the transition to his new position as University President.

“Dean Coughlin is a trusted and respected administrator who knows the University well,” Paino said. “I am deeply indebted to him for his willingness to serve in this capacity in the interim. I know he will do a wonderful job assisting me during the transition.”

Paino has already formed a search committee for the next Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Truman. The Search Committee includes Janet Gooch, professor and chair of communication disorders, committee co-chair; Priscilla Riggle, dean of the School of Arts & Letters, committee co-chair; Clifton Kreps, professor and chair of classic and modern languages; Teresa Heckert, professor of psychology; Sally West, professor of history; Stephen Allen, professor of business administration; James Guffey, professor of mathematics and statistics and president of Faculty Senate; Janet Romine, librarian; Rebecca Charles, assistant registrar; Kathy Powell, assistant to the provost; and Isaac Robinson, vice president of Student Senate.

The committee met Feb. 19 and was asked by Paino to work fast in hopes of finding someone willing to begin by the start of next academic year.

The position announcement went out the final week of February.

The committee will begin reviewing application materials in April, conduct off-campus interviews with semi-finalists by mid-April and invite the finalists to campus during the last week in April and first week in May.

If for any reason the committee decides to delay interviews until the fall, campus will be notified.

The committee will submit a list of “acceptable” candidates with a summary of their strengths and weaknesses to Paino.

At the end of the process, after receiving input from the search committee and the entire campus community, he will decide who can effectively work with him, faculty, staff, students, the President’s Executive Staff and academic administrators in helping set the course for Truman.

Cupelli, Johnson Lead Faculty and Staff Campaign

This year’s Faculty and Staff Campaign is being headed by Amber Johnson, chair of society and environment, and Ralph Cupelli, assistant to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Recently, faculty and staff received information about supporting the Truman Foundation through the 2010 Faculty and Staff Campaign.

Campaign goals include $170,000 in gift support and a participation rate of 60 percent.

Faculty and staff members may designate their gifts to any of the foundation’s 464 funds or direct their gifts to the Truman Fund for Excellence, a fund used to support the University’s areas of greatest need.

There will be a drawing April 1 for prizes, including the reserved parking spots for one year. Any gift to the campaign qualifies individuals for the parking spot drawing, and first-time gifts to the campaign qualify individuals for the Truman apparel package drawing.

This fall, Truman entered into the public phase of “Bright Minds Bright Futures,” a comprehensive, five-year campaign to raise $30 million.

Every gift will count toward both this year’s Faculty and Staff and the “Bright Minds Bright Futures” campaign goals.

For more information about the campaign, go to http://isupport.truman.edu or http://campaign.truman.edu.

Leadership Recognition Program 2010

Sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement.

Students, faculty and staff can nominate exceptional student leaders, advisers, organizations and events on campus today.

Nomination forms are due by 5 p.m. March 17 in the CSI Office, lower level of the Student Union Building.

Contact the CSI at 785.4222 or csilrp@truman.edu for more information.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

File the 2010-2011 FAFSA located at http://www.fafsa.gov before April 1 to be considered for all available funding. For more information, visit the Financial Aid Office, McClain 103, 785.4130.
Forensics Claims State Title and Awards

Truman Forensics won the state title Feb. 20-21, for the first time since 2004.

Other awards included the Bob Derryberry Overall Award, given to the best team in the tournament. The debaters also won the Harold Lawson Overall Debate Award.

“These awards are named after former, influential Missouri coaches. The speech competitors also took third place for overall individual events sweepstakes.

“This weekend’s victory highlighted how far we have come this season, not just as individual competitors, but as a team,” Debate Coach Kristopher Group said.

“Winning debate sweepstakes was great preparation for nationals, but the real prize was the overall award, which highlighted the contributions of both sides of the program and is a terrific measure of team quality across the board.”

Truman also earned several individual state champion awards, including Christian Johns in Lincoln-Douglas speaking, Mel Kapitan in impromptu speaking, Samantha Jones in poetry interpretation and Kyle LaVelle in extemporaneous speaking.

Other awards included Andrew Grojean who took fourth in after dinner speaking, sixth in impromptu and second in pentathlon. Jessica Petrie took second in impromptu, second in extemporaneous and second in persuasion. Jones and Grojean also placed third in the trio interpretation.

Top Novice Awards included Jones in poetry, LaVelle in extemporaneous and after dinner speaking and Petrie in impromptu, communication analysis and persuasion.

Additional debate awards include Susan Taylor who placed second, Elizabeth Hatting fifth and Sarah Backhaus sixth. Lincoln-Douglas speaking included quarterfinalist awards for Hatting, Johns, and Backhaus, while Taylor made it to the semi-finals. In parliamentary debate, Johns received a fourth place speaking award and Backhaus fifth. Other notables in this partner format included octofinalist awards for the team of Petrie/Taylor, and semifinals for Johns/Hatting. Backhaus and Dylan Clark won second overall.

Anyone interested in forensics should contact Kristi Scholten, director of forensics, at kscholten@truman.edu.

Foundation Awards Study Abroad Scholarships

The Truman State University Foundation awards 10 $1,500 scholarships annually to students who are participating in a summer, faculty-led study abroad experience.

The students who have been selected as recipients in 2010 will study abroad in various programs, including Archeological Dig/Mideast Study Tour, China, Costa Rica, Europe in Transition, Sacred Sites of Greece and Transcultural Experience in the Philippines.

More than $444,000 in scholarships have been awarded from the Truman State University Foundation in 2009-2010. These scholarships are made possible through generous contributions from alumni, parents and friends of the University.

Applications for 2010-2011 Foundation scholarships are available online now at https://secure.truman.edu/isupport-s/. The deadline to apply is midnight, March 5. Foundation Study Abroad scholarships applications will be available in the Center for International Education this fall.

For more information or questions, contact the Office of Advancement at 785.4133.
Kirkville Unites to Attract Google Fiber

Students and employees from Truman and A.T. Still University of Health Sciences are organizing to support an effort to convince Google to bring one gigabit data fiber connections to every home and business in Kirksville.

Several Truman and ATSU representatives, along with leaders from the city of Kirksville, area utilities, businesses and interested citizens, began the process of responding to an open request for information from Google at a meeting Feb. 23.

According to Google, the company plans to install and test fiber-to-the-home Internet networks in one or more selected locations around the country. The connections would be more than one gigabit per second, which is more than 100 times faster than most services today. Google asked communities to submit a proposal outlining why they would be ideal candidates for the experiment.

Bryan Krusniak, director of ATSU’s Department of Information Technology and Services, began organizing key players from both universities, the city and several local businesses last week to help give the proposal form. As of March 1, a Facebook group supporting the initiative included nearly 1,800 fans, and a campaign website is under development.

“A key component to making this proposal successful is demonstrating to Google that Kirksville wants and needs this kind of service,” Krusniak said. “We need to prove that we can do great things with the added bandwidth. That means bringing lots of voices to the table to brainstorm ideas about what this would mean for the community. It also means we need the community to demonstrate widespread support for the project.”

On its website, Google imagines, “sitting in a rural health clinic, streaming three-dimensional medical imaging over the web and discussing a unique condition with a specialist in New York,” “downloading a high-definition, full-length feature film in less than five minutes” or “collaborating with classmates around the world while watching live 3-D video of a university lecture.”

Kevin Minch, director of the Truman Institute and one of the early collaborators on the initiative, said, “The potential academic applications are significant. Not only can this enhance our capacity to perform research and allow students to collaborate at a distance, but winning access to this network could really help Truman further fulfill its statewide educational mission by providing extra-high quality distance learning opportunities that are consistent with Truman’s mission.”

Minch echoed Krusniak’s call for public involvement and described efforts already under way to get the Truman community involved.

“Anyone can submit a nomination to Google advocating for Kirksville as a site for this project,” Minch said. “Additional applications strengthen our argument. We are also working with members of Truman’s Student Senate to sponsor a viral video contest encouraging students to design short advertisements for YouTube and the web-based portion of Kirksville’s application.”

The Truman Institute will sponsor a public rally at 8 p.m. March 4 in Violette 1000 on the Truman campus. Video cameras will be present to record testimony by members of the University and Kirksville communities about how they would use the enhanced bandwidth to enhance their lives and work. Comments will be edited and used to provide additional support to the application.

“We want to use the same kind of innovative technology that Google uses to promote its products to sell Kirksville,” said Todd Kuhns, web services manager for Truman ITS and a member of the Kirksville City Council. “That means viral video, the web and social networking. Our students are masters of these media and can demonstrate the potential for what more bandwidth could do for Kirksville.”

People interested in learning more about the initiative can visit the group and website at http://www.fiber4kirksville.info/ or join the Facebook group at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Google-Fiber-For-Kirksville/302090707335?ref=track.

15033537.1858266783..1&v=wall.

Notables

SAB is hosting “Poker Night” on March 2 in the Student Union Building Down Under. Come to the Down Under for Texas Hold ‘Em Poker, free food and door prizes.

Alpha Phi Omega is hosting a Bake Sale from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. March 3-5 in McClain, Magruder and Violette halls. Baked goods will be available for 50 cents each.

The Weekly Lunch Series continues at 12:30 p.m. March 3 in the Student Union Building Spanish Room. The library staff will share the present and future visions for the Library and its services during their presentation, “Library Services: What’s Happening Now and Our Look to the Future.”

The next Physics Colloquium will take place at 4:30 p.m. March 3 in Magruder Hall 1096. The topic of presentation is “Random Adventures in Physics and Weirdness,” presented by Taner Edis, associate professor of physics. Visit http://physics.truman.edu/colloquia/mainstage.asp for more information.

Student Affairs is offering a trip to Moab, Utah, May 9-16 for activities such as hiking, mountain biking and rafting. A meeting for interested students will take place at 9 p.m. March 3 in Violette Hall 1010. Cost for students is $300 plus food. The trip is sponsored by a Student Life Initiative Grant from Student Affairs. E-mail Liz at ljorns@truman.edu for more information.

The Center for Teaching & Learning is hosting a Webinar at 1 p.m. March 5 in Pickler Memorial Library 205 on how to successfully apply for Community Engagement Classification. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching began its registration process for the new Carnegie campus classification, Community Engagement. The classification is an elective classification established by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in 2006, and was issued for a second time in 2008. For more information visit http://classifications.carnegiefoundation.org/descriptions/community_engagement.php.

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) will meet at 4:30 p.m. March 5 at the University Club House, located at 516 E. Patterson. Contact Marc Becker at marc@truman.edu or call 785.6036 for more information.

The Quincy Symphony Orchestra Chorus will present “True Award Winners” with a guest appearance by True Men at 7:30 p.m. March 6 at Salem Evangelical United Church of Christ in Quincy, Ill. Tickets are free for faculty, staff and students with a University ID. Visit http://www.qsoa.org for more information.

May 2010 graduates can begin ordering graduation items at http://www1.herffjones.com/college/graduation/index.cfm or stop by the Truman Bookstore for details. Orders are due March 5. Mark your calendars for the graduation fair April 20-21 in the Student Union Building.

Nominations for the Still Spirit Awards are now under way. The Still Spirit Award recognizes leadership and the spirit of volunteerism of Dr. Andrew Taylor Still, founder of A.T. Still University. Nomination forms are available at http://www.atsu.edu/spirit and must be submitted by March 19. For more information, contact vhalterman@atsu.edu.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching offers a McManis Scholarship is due March 5.

To apply, go to https://secure.truman.edu/isupport-s/. The McManis Scholarship is due March 5.

National Science Foundation Incentive Scholarships of $500 may be available to students who take one or more math or computer science courses not required by their majors. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or nationals, have a financial need as demonstrated by the FAFSA, and may not be math or computer science majors. (Math and computer science minors are eligible). To apply, fill out the online application at http://smacs.truman.edu. Students who apply by March 5 will receive first consideration for funding. For more information contact Dana Vazzana at dvazzana@truman.edu.

Apply for The Sue Shear Institute - 21st Century Leadership Academy
May 23-28 • University of Missouri-St. Louis

The 21st Century Leadership Academy is focused on women’s public policy leadership and encourages students to consider careers in public policy. Truman will select up to four students to participate and will cover the cost of participation. Students can be any major, must have demonstrated leadership skill, and have expressed interest in women’s public policy leadership. Applications are due March 19. Contact Julie Lochbaum with questions at 785.4477 or lochbaum@truman.edu. Applications are available at http://registrar.truman.edu/other/shear.asp.

Scholastic Enhancement Experience Counselor
Spend two weeks in August getting to know students, teaching them about Truman and its resources, as well as creating lasting friendships between them. Applications are due at 5 p.m. March 12 and can be found at http://mac.truman.edu. E-mail bthomas@truman.edu or katismith@truman.edu for more information.