Alumnus Larry Rigdon Returns for Commencement Address

Commencement speaker Larry Rigdon embodies the ingredients of a successful entrepreneur – vision, determination, sweat equity, leadership – into a package that produces products and results. A 1970 Truman graduate and Kirksville native, Rigdon began his career in public accounting and advanced to become one of the nation’s premier leaders in the offshore marine services industry, or as he describes it, to “make the score rather than keep score.”

In a 37-year career, Rigdon has done everything from digging ditches to serving as the CEO of his own multimillion dollar company. He has worked around the globe, including stops in Egypt, Mexico and Southeast Asia. During his career, he progressed through a series of management positions at several companies as the offshore marine service industry experienced significant consolidations during the 1980s and 1990s. As the executive vice president of Tidewater, one of the world’s largest marine-services providers, Rigdon was responsible for operations in areas including the United States, the Middle East and the former Soviet Union, among others.

By 2002, after only six weeks of retirement from Tidewater, Rigdon started his own offshore marine services company. Rigdon Marine, as the new company would come to be known, started with an order of 10 vessels, which Rigdon helped design. The new diesel-electric boats not only saved customers as much as 20 percent on fuel costs, they reshaped the industry with new redundant safety systems.

A few years later, Rigdon Marine had a fleet of 20 vessels and employed more than 300 people. Rigdon would go on to sell his company in June 2008 to GulfMark Offshore for an enterprise value of $585 million. That same year, Ernst & Young named Rigdon Entrepreneur of the Year for Offshore Marine Services.

Rigdon remains active in the industry today and currently serves on the Board of Directors for Terresolve Technologies. He previously served on the Board of GulfMark Offshore and is active in several industry organizations.

In addition to earning a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting and business administration from Truman, Rigdon is a graduate of the Harvard Business School’s Advanced Management Program. During his time at Truman, Rigdon was involved with Blue Key, Phi Sigma Epsilon, the Accounting Club and the Business Administration Club.

Family, travel and downhill skiing are passions for Rigdon and his wife, Janet K. (Thompson) Rigdon, a 1971 graduate of the University. Larry and Janet are the proud parents of Matthew M. Rigdon and Megan (Rigdon) Cannizzaro and three grandchildren. Larry’s mother, Maxine Rigdon, is a lifelong resident of Kirksville.

Commencement ceremonies are scheduled for 2 p.m. May 7 at Stokes Stadium.

Clapp Children’s Literacy Fund Awarded to Hale and Lechner

Brenna Hale, a Master of Arts in Education graduate student, and Debbie Lechner, a teacher at the Kirksville R-III Primary School, each received a $500 fund to purchase literature for their respective classrooms.

The Dr. Kay Clapp Children’s Literacy Fund was endowed by Dr. and Mrs. Sam Minner in 2006 to honor Dr. Clapp, a professor emeritus in the Department of Education at Truman. Clapp is a powerful proponent of literacy and children’s literature. Hundreds of students and practicing teachers have been influenced by her dedication and careful mentoring. The fund provides $500 each to a Master of Arts in Education student and to a local teacher to purchase children’s literature for their professional practices.

The awards were presented at a reception April 18 on Truman’s campus.
New Website Takes Service to the Next Level

Finding community service opportunities and tracking completed hours is now easier than ever thanks to recent innovations to the SERVE Center website at http://serve.truman.edu.

The website now features an interactive database which offers opportunities for students, community organizations and faculty to advertise and recruit volunteers for service and service-learning projects, while fostering communication between these parties.

Through the database, volunteers will be able to search for projects according to their interests, as well as log completed service hours. This will assist service organizations in recording and managing members’ hours and will also allow students to be recognized for their commitment to service on their co-curricular record.

Students may earn Gold, Silver or Bronze Service Awards for submitting 100, 80 or 60 hours, respectively. Awards will be distributed at the Leadership Recognition Program starting next year. Students who qualify for these awards will be asked to reflect in their co-curricular journal and to attend a Service-Learning Talk and Reflect (STAR) session where they can share their service experiences with others.

“The journal offers [students] prompts on how to reflect on the experience so it goes beyond service to an actual learning opportunity where they think about the skills they gain and the opportunities they’ve had through the service,” said Baillie Cloyd, program adviser for service and leadership.

Maintaining a database of service hours is beneficial for the University by providing accurate statistics for fundraising campaigns, grants and awards, including the President’s Community Service Honor Roll. Cloyd previously gathered totals by e-mailing campus organizations and having them estimate their completed service hours for the year.

“Any numbers we had were going to be underreporting,” Cloyd said. “This will give an accurate representation of what our students do and how involved they are.”

Cloyd thinks the new website will make the SERVE Center more visible and provide a starting place for students who are looking to get involved. She also said it will be a valuable tool for fostering community relations, making it easier for students to work and communicate with the community.

The inspiration for this project came from a session at the Missouri Campus Compact Statewide Conference two years ago. The presenting school had purchased a similar system through an outside company, paying to have it updated each year.

“After talking to our ITS department, they said they could just create it for us, and then it would be all in-house and we wouldn’t have to pay for it,” Cloyd said.

Cloyd and Greg Marshall, ITS web developer, have been working on the project since Fall 2010, and it has been up-and-running on the SERVE website for approximately one month. Marshall and Cloyd are perfecting the system, adding and brainstorming potential features with the official launch still to come.

“Officially, it’ll launch next fall because it’ll be a new semester, a new year, and we want people to start logging their hours that way and utilizing the different features,” Cloyd said.

Cloyd has been giving presentations to Truman organizations and offices and has also made a tutorial to educate local agencies on how to utilize the many features of the new system. She said she would welcome any feedback or new ideas for the project. For more information on the features and benefits of this project, or to schedule a tutorial, contact bclloyd@truman.edu.

Fishing Club Places in Top 10 at College National Championship

Truman students, Spencer Clark (left) and Mike McCarthy, Jr. (right) hold up two of the fish that helped them capture the 10th place slot in the 2nd Annual National Guard FLW College Fishing National Championship.

McCarthy, a senior accounting major, and Clark, a senior biology major, caught a combined total of four bass weighing 15 pounds, 10 ounces collectively. FLW Outdoors hosted the annual National College Fishing Tournament April 7-9 on Kentucky Lake in Murray, Ky., where 25 teams from across the country competed for a prize worth $100,000. Ultimately, the University of Florida won the event for the second time in a row. Clark and McCarthy took 2nd place at the FLW College Fishing Central Regional Championship in November, which qualified them for the national tournament.
Taner Edis, associate professor of physics, presented at the SciMath Colloquium March 31 at the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Shannon Kelley, outgoing president of the Delta Sigma chapter of Delta Zeta sorority for the last two years, was awarded the Grace Mason Lundy award by the Delta Zeta National Council April 15. Kelley was one of seven seniors nationally who received this award as testimony to her loyalty, devotion and service to the sorority.

Cathy Poyner, instructor of accounting, has earned the coveted Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) credential. The CITP is the American Institute of CPA's credential for CPA technology professionals that illustrates to others Poyner's business and technology acumen and her ability to develop and drive the use of technology to achieve the Institute's goals and those of its students.

Truman Students Selected for Who's Who


Challenge Results in Support for Scholarship

Bertha Thomas (left), assistant dean of Multicultural Affairs, presents a check to Denise Smith (right), director of Alumni Relations, for the Black Alumni and Attendees Scholarship. Student organizations raised more than $600 for the scholarship. During Black History Month, Thomas issued a challenge to the organizations and pledged an additional $500 to the scholarship. Pictured left to right, bottom row: LaMesha Brown, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.; Thomas; Smith; Jessica Johnson, National Association of Black Accountants; and Mark Gambaiana, vice president for University Advancement. Top row: Angel McGee, Association of Black Collegians; Donnaice Mitchum, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.; David Lee White, Jr.; and Ivy Pierce, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Not pictured: Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Theta Omega and Unique Ensemble.

NOTABLES

Taner Edis, associate professor of physics, presented at the SciMath Colloquium March 31 at the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Shannon Kelley, outgoing president of the Delta Sigma chapter of Delta Zeta sorority for the last two years, was awarded the Grace Mason Lundy award by the Delta Zeta National Council April 15. Kelley was one of seven seniors nationally who received this award as testimony to her loyalty, devotion and service to the sorority.

Cathy Poyner, instructor of accounting, has earned the coveted Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) credential. The CITP is the American Institute of CPA’s credential for CPA technology professionals that illustrates to others Poyner’s business and technology acumen and her ability to develop and drive the use of technology to achieve the Institute’s goals and those of its students.

Golden Leadership Award

This award recognizes the hard work, leadership skills and dedication of Truman student leaders. The Golden Leadership Award is based upon three categories of leadership: leadership and campus involvement; work experience and community involvement; and academic achievement. Awardees were recognized during the Leadership Recognition Program Banquet April 7.

Awardees:
April Williams
Megan Temme
Shannon Kelley
Allee Middlecamp
Sarah Trosen

Truman Technology Purchases

Computer technology purchases require ITS review to ensure the items being purchased are compatible with Truman’s information technology systems.

The Business Office also requires technology purchases to have ITS approval.

The ITS technology purchase request form is the best way to submit requests to purchase technology.

The form is located on the ITS website at http://its.truman.edu on the left side under the “Purchasing Technology” link.

The direct link to the web page is http://its.truman.edu/purchaserequest/application.asp.

If you have any questions, contact the IT Service Center Help Desk at 785.4544.

Music Concerts

Franklin Street Singers Spring Concert
4 p.m. • April 30
Baldwin Hall Auditorium

University Orchestra Concert
8 p.m. • April 30
Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall
NOTES
A presentation about Semester at Sea, a study abroad program, will take place from 3-4 p.m. April 26 in Violette Hall 1000. Representative Kelly Wilkinson will provide a brief information seminar followed by a Q&A session. This event is open to all students, and more information is available at http://semesteratsea.org.

H.E.A.L. Japan will host an appreciation party from 7:30-8 p.m. April 27 in the West Campus Suites Multi-Purpose Room. The organization will report on the current situation in Japan, how much has been collected and how much they appreciate the Kirksville community. There will also be some Japanese snacks.

The One Act Festival, hosted by the Theatre Department’s directing class, will take place at 8 p.m. April 27-29 in the James G. Severns Theatre. Three one acts will be performed each night. Admission is free.

The Herpetology Club will host an open house from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. April 28 in the herpetology lab in Magruder Hall 2084. The open house will include an opportunity to hold animals and ask questions.

The Biology Department will host a surplus plant sale from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. April 29 at the University Greenhouse on Patterson Street. Many plants will be under $1, and most will be $5 or less. Plants types will include orchids, bromeliads, cacti, succulents, palm trees and others. All funds will be used for operational costs for the University Greenhouse.

Franklin Street Singers will perform its final concert of the school year at 4 p.m. April 30 in Baldwin Hall Auditorium. Admission is free. Featured songs include “Somebody to Love,” “You Can’t Always Get What You Want” and “Viva la Vida.” Franklin Street is Truman’s premier show choir.

McNair Program 2010-2011 Graduates
The McNair program is designed to prepare students from underrepresented backgrounds for entry into graduate school and ultimately attaining a PhD. In the past five years, 95 percent of McNair Scholars have graduated within six years of entering Truman, and for three of those years the six-year graduation rate was 100 percent. Below is a list of the 2010-2011 graduates, their area of study, and the graduate schools to which they have been accepted.

- Emmanuel Camarillo
  Environmental Education
  Western Washington University

- Jorge Camarillo
  Criminology & Criminal Justice
  Indiana State University
  University of Missouri-St. Louis
  University of Louisiana at Monroe

- Joseph Dove
  Statistics
  University of Missouri-Columbia

- Hailey Feldhaus
  Communication Disorders
  Truman State University
  University of Cincinnati

- Max Glenn
  Theatre
  University of Kentucky
  University of Missouri-Kansas City

- T tahamara Ibarra
  Public Health
  Saint Louis University
  University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
  San Diego State University

- Alyse Jenkins
  Family Therapy
  Valdosta State University
  Mercer University

- Dominique Johnson
  Public Health
  University of Missouri-Columbia
  University of Kentucky

- Brooke Ratterree
  Cultural Studies
  University of Washington at Bothell

- Katherine Tolle
  Spanish
  University of Alabama
  University of Maryland at College Park

Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Education Candidate Forums
Faculty, staff and students are invited to attend forums with three candidates. Each session will involve a dialogue between the candidate and the persons attending the forum. Prepared remarks are not anticipated. Feedback forms will be provided at each forum and online. Feedback forms may be submitted at the forum, to the Provost’s Office, or online before 5 p.m. May 2. Candidate materials and the feedback form can be found at https://secure.truman.edu/postitionlisting-s/department.

- Christopher Lantz
  4:15-5 p.m.
  April 27
  Violette Hall 1000

- Christopher Maglio
  4:15-5 p.m.
  April 28
  Violette Hall 1000

- Janet Gooch
  4:15-5 p.m.
  April 29
  Violette Hall 1000

Show Your Truman Spirit

Show your Truman pride by participating in the Facebook photo contest sponsored by the Office of Admission. Here is how it works:

- Submit a photo showing your Truman spirit. Submit photos by sending a message to Jacob on his Facebook page at http://facebook.com/jacob.at.truman. Include your name, relationship to Truman, e-mail, phone number, year the photo was taken and if you would like your name associated with the photo. All personal information will be kept in the strictest confidence and will not be released beyond the Office of Admission or used to contact you in any way besides this contest.
- Pictures will be posted on the Truman Facebook page at http://facebook.com/trumanstateuniversity.
- There will be TWO winners! Both will win a prize pack of awesome Truman gear!
- The first prize will go to the person who submits the picture with the most “likes.”
- The second prize will go to the person who submits the best photo chosen by the Admission Staff.
- Deadline for photo submissions and to “like” photos is May 2.
- The winners will be notified by May 5.

BE SURE TO CHECK THE PAGE OFTEN AND “LIKE” YOUR FAVORITES!