Truman Campaign Tops $30 Million Goal

As announced by President Troy D. Paino at commencement ceremonies May 7, Truman State University has surpassed its $30 million goal in its “Bright Minds Bright Futures” fundraising campaign.

The five-year effort, Truman’s first-ever comprehensive campaign, began July 1, 2006, and featured several major initiatives, including student scholarships, student enrichment and academic programs, faculty support, athletics and mission enhancement.

As of May 31, 2011, a total of $30,413,412 has been generated in cash, multi-year pledges and new planned gift commitments toward the campaign. Nearly $13.9 million has been raised for student scholarships, a centerpiece of the campaign. In addition, $8.25 million has been raised for student enrichment and academic programs, impacting areas such as study abroad, library enhancements, lectureships, student undergraduate research, programs to benefit the schools and departments, cultural programs and internships.

The campaign concludes June 30, 2011, and efforts to close additional gifts are continuing. Final campaign figures and other points of distinction will be released this summer.

“I am deeply grateful to the thousands of alumni and friends who have responded so generously to our call for support,” President Paino said. “Over 18,000 gifts have been received, including more than 12,000 from alumni, to the campaign over the past five years.

“It was essential for Truman to meet the goal during its inaugural comprehensive campaign,” continued President Paino. “We have established a solid base for future campaign efforts as private gift support will increasingly be an important component of securing Truman’s vitality in the years ahead.”

Chuck Foudree, retired vice president and chief financial officer for Harmon Industries in Kansas City, served as campaign chair and led a corps of more than 100 volunteers.

“The devotion and impact of our volunteers on the Bright Minds Bright Futures campaign is inestimable,” President Paino said.

Gooch Selected as Dean of Health Sciences and Education

Janet Gooch, professor and chair of Communication Disorders, has been appointed Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Education.

Gooch follows Sam Minner who earlier this year was named the provost and vice president for academic affairs at Radford University in Virginia. Her appointment was announced May 12 by Richard Coughlin, interim provost and vice president for academic affairs.

A member of the Truman faculty since 1995, Gooch has a bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D. in speech pathology from the University of Kansas, Kent State University and Case Western Reserve University respectively. She has served as the chair of Communication Disorders since 2004, and was the interim director of the Ronald E. McNair Program for 2008-2009.

In 2008, Gooch was the recipient of a Walker and Doris Allen Fellowship and was also named the Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor. In 2003 she received the William O’Donnell Lee Advising Award.

Gooch will begin her position as dean July 1.
Eighteen students were recognized as Honors Scholar graduates for Spring 2011. Honors Scholar medals were awarded at a pre-commencement ceremony May 6. Truman’s Honors Scholar Program offers outstanding students the opportunity to select rigorous courses in the liberal arts and sciences component of their degree programs. The honor is awarded to graduating seniors who have completed five approved courses, with at least one from each of the four areas of mathematics, natural science, social science and humanities. They must achieve a grade point average of at least 3.5 in those courses and an overall grade point average of 3.5. Spring 2011 Honors Scholar graduates were:

Amanda Backs  
Jeff Boschen  
Brett Collins  
Emily Fassi  
Annie Froeschner  
Kazuyuki Hashimoto  
Elizabeth Hatting  
Stephanie Hulsey  
Gregory Lambert  
Michael McKenzie  
Kara Mohs  
Margaret Mudd  
Kylie Raithel  
Emily Richens  
Kevin Schmitt  
Lindsey Tauer  
Charles Tomlinson  
Ashley Tucker

Truman will receive a bequest in excess of $500,000 from the estate of the late Marjorie Alice White of Monroe City, Mo. The substantial gift will create the Samuel A. Jeffries and Alice White Scholarship fund at Truman and become one of the largest scholarship programs established through the University’s Foundation.

Recipients of the scholarship will demonstrate and maintain a 3.0 grade point average and produce evidence of good citizenship, extracurricular activity participation and leadership. Scholarship awards will be equivalent to one-half of the cost of tuition, room and board for Missouri students at Truman, or approximately $7,000. The awards will be renewable for a period of four years, provided that academic and citizenship standards are maintained. When fully endowed, the fund will support scholarships for at least three Missouri students attending Truman annually.

“We are very grateful to Alice White for her foresight and generosity in establishing this significant scholarship program at Truman,” said University President Troy D. Paino. “Generations of Missouri students will receive the gift of a Truman education as a result of this bequest. Alice was an educator and advocate of lifelong learning, and her legacy will continue through this scholarship program.”

Born in Lewis County, Mo., Alice White was educated in country schools and graduated from Durham High School. She attended the University from 1939 to 1941 and then began teaching in one-room rural schools in northeast Missouri. Following a teaching stint in Zephyrhills, Fla., Alice returned to Missouri and completed her teaching career at Louisiana, Mo. She moved to Monroe City in retirement and enjoyed hunting, fishing and collecting antiques. She was remembered as a strict but fair teacher who earned the respect of her students and greatly influenced the lives of many schoolchildren.

Her scholarship is also named for Samuel Jeffries, the son of Samuel and Adele Jeffries, lifelong friends of White, who was tragically killed in a bicycle accident many years ago.

The gift is part of Truman State University’s $30 million “Bright Minds Bright Futures” campaign.
Tom Capuano, professor of foreign language, received word that his 1995 paleographic edition of Gabriel Alonso de Herrera’s Obra de agricultura (1513) was chosen by the Royal Spanish Academy as one of the base texts for the corpus of its Nuevo diccionario histórico de la lengua española project. The initial transcription from which this edition was created was carried out by undergraduate researchers Amy S. Carder ('94), J. Scott England ('95), and Lisa A. Torres ('93).

Laura Hill, an accounting and business administration major, was named the “LEAP Student of the Month” for April 2011. LEAP, which stands for Lead and Enhance the Accounting Profession, was created by the Missouri Society of CPAs in 2001 to raise awareness, build understanding and change perceptions about the CPA profession. Hill will enter Truman’s Master of Accountancy program in the fall and serve as a graduate teaching research assistant. Her professors nominated her for this award.

Betty McLane-Iles, professor of French, was recently appointed to the Kirksville Planning and Zoning Commission. McLane-Iles appointment was approved at the Council’s May 2 meeting. Her term will last until June 2013.

Calli Price, a justice systems student, recently had her review of the book “Cybercrime: An Introduction to an Emerging Phenomenon” published in the International Journal of Cyber Criminology (vol. 4; iss. 1). The book outlines the growing threat of cybercrime, electronic fraud and online deviancy.
Taste of Truman Summer Program Offers Alumni and Friends “Mini College” Experience

Students of all ages are being welcomed to the Truman campus again this June as part of the second annual “Taste of Truman” – an event designed to give participants a little taste of the high caliber classes offered by the University.

The weekend features 12 short classes from some of Truman’s most respected and honored faculty. In addition, participants can enjoy organized activities at University facilities, a themed banquet and lots of informal and organized social time, with complimentary meals throughout.

Originally envisioned as a “mini college” experience for returning alumni, organizers of the event have opened Taste of Truman to anyone in the community.

“Many colleges and universities hold events like these for alumni each year,” said Kevin Minch, director of the Truman Institute, “but we wanted to build an event that would be of interest to more than just alumni. We think the events we have planned will have really broad appeal and we hope people in the community will join us.”

Participants can elect two, three-hour extended courses and four, 90-minute short courses that interest them from a list of subjects. Topics range from the basics of digital photography and the rhetoric of food to the music of the “Silk Road” and 13th century Venetian art. For students with more eclectic tastes, the weekend also features a course on hypnosis and a class that addresses navigation by the stars.

“There’s a little in here for everyone who wants to learn something new… and maybe a little off-beat,” Minch said.

For the benefit of K-12 teachers seeking continuing education credit, a special themed “track” has been created around topics related to Marco Polo’s legendary journey from Venice to China. For only $25, teachers can earn one graduate credit and receive supplemental training about creating interdisciplinary linkages between a wide range of topics.

Participants will also be treated to a range of fun activities, including: “Stars and S’mores,” a bonfire and night of stargazing at the University Observatory; a guided tour of campus history and architecture; a hands-on experience in Pickler Memorial Library’s Special Collections; and a guided visit to the Ruth Warner Towne Museum and Visitor’s Center, among other opportunities.

Saturday evening will be capped-off with an outdoor banquet – “Dinner and a Yurt” – casting the theme of Marco Polo’s travels in food with dishes representing the regions of Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

“Last year’s Taste of Truman was a blast,” Minch said. “We got so much positive feedback. We even had a couple get engaged while they were here. We won’t make any guarantees about romance, but we will guarantee that people will learn a lot and have fun.”

Taste of Truman will take place June 24-26. Participation costs $150 and is inclusive of all classes and meals. Additional options, including graduate credit and guest meal tickets are also available. Out-of-town guests are welcome and may elect to stay on campus or in one of several local hotels offering a special rate for participants.

For more information on the program, or to register, visit the Taste of Truman website at institute.truman.edu/taste.asp.

TRUMAN SUMMER AT-A-GLANCE

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M*A*S*H Camp for Students Interested in Health Care Careers

The Adair County M*A*S*H Camp will take place July 12-13 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on the campuses of Truman State University and Northeast Regional Medical Center. The camp is intended for middle school students who have an interest in exploring health care careers. A limited number of scholarships are available to families for whom the registration fee is a considerable hardship. For more information, or to obtain a registration packet, call NEMO AHEC at 877.303.2938 or 665.6404.