Truman Joins National LEAP Employer-Educator Compact

Truman is participating in a new national initiative called the LEAP Employer-Educator Compact.

Participating campuses and employers will work together through 2014 to showcase employer support for the aims and outcomes of a broad liberal education and to show how higher education is helping students connect college learning with work, citizenship and global challenges.

The compact was developed by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) and by employers working with AAC&U. University President Troy Paino also is a member of a special presidential leadership group within AAC&U called the LEAP Presidents’ Trust. Presidents’ Trust members and employers who work with them are the initial signatories to this ongoing national initiative to ensure that today’s students will be well prepared for economic, civic and global challenges.

For its part in the Compact, Truman has already established partnerships with the Kansas City-based health care company Cerner, as well as Boeing, the world’s largest aerospace company. These partnerships are designed to underscore the economic value of liberal education and to provide students with more hands-on learning opportunities to connect their campus learning with real-world contexts and problems.

“I am excited to be a part of this new national effort bringing employers and educators together to ensure that all our students understand what it takes to succeed in today’s workplace and to partner on ways we can provide to students more opportunities to apply their learning in real-world settings. We are particularly pleased to partner in this initiative with Cerner and Boeing,” Paino said.

At an April 10 Compact forum in Washington, D.C., AAC&U launched the new LEAP Employer-Educator Compact to make high quality college learning a shared national priority. More than 250 college presidents, business and nonprofit leaders have signed on to the LEAP Employer-Educator Compact. They have pledged to work together to ensure that all college students—including those attending two-year and four-year, public and private institutions—have access to a high quality liberal education that prepares them successfully for work, life and citizenship.

Extensive surveys and focus groups by the AAC&U have revealed that more than 75 percent of employers want more emphasis on five key areas including: critical thinking; complex problem-solving; written and oral communication; and applied knowledge in real-world settings. For a full list of LEAP Presidents’ Trust members and employers signing the compact, see aacu.org/leap/presidentstrust/compact. Information about AAC&U membership, programs and publications can be found at aacu.org.
**Gregg Receives Student of Achievement Award**

Truman senior computer science major Sierra Gregg received the Student of Achievement Award from the St. Louis Society for the Blind & Visually Impaired at its Visionary Gala April 13 for her ingenuity to make historical documents from presidential libraries accessible to the blind and visually impaired.

In the summer of 2011, Gregg, herself visually impaired, was chosen as the social media intern at the Office of Presidential Libraries within the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Since she has always wanted to work in a library or archive environment, the National Archives internship seemed like a natural fit.

By July of that year, Gregg started searching around in the National Archives digital catalogs for records relating to the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Signed on July 26, 1990 by George H. W. Bush, the ADA was a groundbreaking civil rights act for the disabilities community. To her dismay, she found only two records relating to the signing of the ADA in the Archive’s digital catalog. Neither of those two records was the Act itself. She could see lists of records relating to the Act, but they had not been digitized, meaning a researcher would either have to travel to the physical location of the record or request a copy.

Because Gregg wanted to increase the number of digitized records relating to the ADA, she submitted a proposal for the Americans with Disabilities records webpage. The scope of the original project grew far beyond what she and her supervisor had first imagined. During the last few weeks of her first summer in Washington, D.C., Gregg helped write the proposal and a request for digitized records that was sent out to the 13 presidential libraries. When the summer ended, she came back to Truman for the school year, and although she did not work directly on the project, she stayed in contact with her supervisor.

When Gregg returned to Washington, D.C., in 2012, almost all of her time was devoted to completing the project. By then, the libraries had sent back a list of more than 50 different records, including pictures and text documents, relating to Americans with disabilities. Each library’s records illustrated that president’s work with people with disabilities. For example, the Roosevelt Library’s records focused on Polio and the Kennedy Library’s records focused on mental impairments. Gregg helped coordinate getting these digitized records listed in the online catalog and the development of the webpage. During the week of July 26, the Office of Presidential Libraries did a series of posts to all of its social media outlets about the launch of the new webpage. They even reached out to some of the organizations mentioned in the records, such as the Special Olympics, Blinded Veterans Association and the March of Dimes, to see if they could help spread the word. They also wrote a post for the WhiteHouse.gov blog, available at whitehouse.gov/blog/2012/07/24/disability-history-presidential-libraries, which also appeared on the National Archives’ blog and Disability.gov’s blog.

Even though Gregg will not be working for the National Archive this summer, she hopes the webpage continues to grow to include more records from the presidential libraries and would like to have the opportunity to work with them again. Her experiences working for the Office of Presidential Libraries have reinforced her desire to work in a library/archives environment.

“Knowledge is the most important thing; it must be protected and preserved so that future generations can learn from the successes and the failures of the past,” Gregg said.

About two months ago, Gregg received a phone call from her parents, informing her that the St. Louis Society for the Blind had awarded her the Student of Achievement Award. Shocked and overwhelmed by the news, she hopes that the publicity from this award will help spread the word about the Americans with Disabilities records webpage.

“I am truly honored that the Society for the Blind has awarded me the Student of Achievement Award, but I am not the only one that needs to be recognized for creating this new resource,” she said.

“Everyone who works for the Office of Presidential Libraries, the archivists that collected the records and numerous other people who work for the National Archives helped make this webpage possible. Without them, these important historical records would not be accessible to everyone interested in learning more about disability history.”

Gregg’s project can be found online at archives.gov/research/americans-with-disabilities/.

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**Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) Information Session**

4:30-5 p.m.  
April 17  
Health Sciences Building 3205  

After completing a bachelor’s degree and the specified pre-requisite courses, admitted students may finish a BSN degree in 15 months of study.  
For additional information, email nursing@truman.edu or call 660.785.4557. The nursing website includes information about the curriculum at nursing.truman.edu.

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**Faculty Staff Campaign Awards Prizes**

The Prize Patrol is out looking for faculty and staff wearing their 2013 Faculty/Staff Campaign buttons.

Buttons can be obtained by making a gift to this year’s campaign. Prize Patrols will be conducted randomly, so faculty and staff members are encouraged to wear their buttons everyday for a chance to win. Recent winners include: Jason Lin and Lana Dowell, School of Business; Tyler Madsen and Megan Wargo-Kearney, Athletics; and Linda Yager, Student Union Building.

Spike on Prize Patrol with recent winners (pictured clockwise from top left) Jason Lin, Lana Dowell, Tyler Madsen, Megan Wargo-Kearney and Linda Yager.
NOTABLES

Tom Capuano, professor of foreign language, has been invited to present his paper “La ‘Memoria de les maneres de les laurons’ en el contexto de la agronomía catalana tardomedieval” at the conference Técnicas agrícolas históricas at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona this June. Capuano also learned recently that his 1993 article on Gonzalo de Berceo’s De los signos que aparecerán ante del juicio was selected for inclusion in Classical and Medieval Literature Criticism. Ed. Lawrence J. Trudeau. Vol. 151. Detroit: Gale Cengage, 2013.

Sara Orel, professor of art history, has been elected chair of the Arts and Humanities Division of the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR). CUR is a national organization for promotion of undergraduate research in all disciplines and provides support for faculty development, including publications and outreach to share successful models and strategies for implementing research at all levels of the undergraduate curriculum. The organization sponsors the National Conference of Undergraduate Research every spring as well as workshops and institutes throughout the year. Orel was one of the presenters at a CUR institute for promoting undergraduate research in the Arts and Humanities at the University of Delaware in November 2012 and will be a co-editor of their publication on successful models for involving students in research through classwork and other settings. She will assume her position as chair of the Arts and Humanities Division at the end of the June business meeting of CUR.

Student Union Building Buys Student Art

Mason Einspahr accepts a check from Laura Bates, CSI director and assistant Student Union Building director, for his artwork. Einspahr, a senior health science major, and biology/studio art painting minor from Boonville, Mo., received a Student Union Building purchase award for his oil on canvas, “Forest Lake Trail,” at the Annual Juried Student Art Show March 5. The piece will become part of the Student Union Building’s permanent student art collection and will be displayed beginning next fall.

Melanie Pailer, junior studio arts/fibers BFA major from Bridgeton, Mo., was awarded a Student Union Building purchase award for her hand-dyed cotton piece, “Life Cycle,” at the Annual Juried Student Art Show March 5. The piece will become part of the Student Union Building’s permanent student art collection and will be displayed beginning next fall.

Phi Beta Kappa Initiation

3 p.m.
April 21
Student Union Building
Georgian Room B

Students to be initiated are:
Ian Ramon Abundis
Michael Arsha Baharaeen
Benjamin David Batzer
Nicholas Richard Becker
Michael Joel Berman
Abigale Morgan Berry
Amy Allene Burbree
Shannan Rae Cantu
Lisa Jean Clark
Shannon Kathleen Colligan
Laura Audrey Franks
Conor James Gearin
Christina Maurine Goehl
Rachel Lee Goodwin
Samantha Lynn Hall
Jessica Ann Harney
Wyatt Andrew Hoffman
Elise Abigail Keller
Elizabeth Grace Koch
Jamie Rose Miller
Dipesh Niraula
Samantha Elizabeth Pernicka
Michael James Polwort
Grace O’Shea Robinson
Mary Amanda Robison
Josiah DeWayne Rosell
Amanda Clare Shetler
Emma Claire Shirey
Kelsey Nicole Spalding
Katy Nicole Spence
Coleen Cecile Ledesma Tanyag
Andrew Kirby Turner
Abigail Leigh Twenter
Mary Louisi Williams
Kun Zhang

Phi Beta Kappa is the nation’s oldest liberal arts and sciences honors society, founded in December 1776, Truman’s chapter, Delta of Missouri, was chartered in 2001.

PEARSON PRIZE APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Applications for the 2013 Pearson Prize for Higher Education are now open. The Pearson Prize is an award distributed by the Pearson Foundation that recognizes students who distinguish themselves by leading public service efforts and give back to their local community while completing their undergraduate studies. This year’s program has been changed in order to provide even more students with the financial support and additional assistance they will need to grow their programs and community outreach efforts. This year, 100 students will receive a cash prize of $1,000 to meet their goals.

The Pearson Prize application is available online at pearsonstudents.com. Applications must be completed by April 19.
Theatre Presents “The Big Meal” April 17-20

The Theatre Department will present Dan LeFranc’s new play “The Big Meal” at 8 p.m. April 17-20 in the James G. Severs Theatre in the Ophelia Parrish building.

“The Big Meal” recently premiered at the American Theatre Company in Chicago and is described as an extraordinary story about an ordinary family. The show takes place across the span of 80 years over the course of a 90 minute play to explore five generations of a modern family with moments of drama and laughter.

This show is under the direction of Truman assistant professor of theatre, David Charles Goyette with student Jeff Denight serving as assistant director.

Presented in the round, this show will seat audience members in the balcony, the house and on the stage itself. “The Big Meal” will be the first show to be presented in this style in the James G. Severs Theatre.

Admission is free for Truman State University Theatre’s Main Stage productions. Tickets are available now through the Ophelia Parrish box office.

NOTES

The Truman State University Concert Percussion Ensemble I, under the direction of Michael Bump, will present its Spring Concert at 8 p.m. April 15 in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall. Entitled “Time In Motion: The Art of the Percussive Gesture,” the concert’s program will feature percussion music that explores the many and varied means of gesture inherent in percussion performance. Audience members will find the consequential element of theater in this music quite interesting. The program will also feature junior percussion major, Brett Morris, winner of the 2012 Michael Hooley Memorial Percussion Award, in a new work for solo timpanist and percussion ensemble. Admission is Free. For more information, contact Bump at 660.785.4052 or mbump@truman.edu.

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) will host its monthly meeting at 4:30 p.m. April 16 at the University Club House, 516 E. Patterson. Contact Marc Becker at marc@truman.edu or call 660.785.6036 for more information.

Service Recognition Luncheon RSVPs are due by April 17 to Human Resources. This annual event recognizes Truman employees celebrating an anniversary year of service. Tickets are $10. Individuals being recognized will receive a complimentary ticket.

Howard Wight Marshall, noted fiddler and scholar of Missouri fiddle music, will perform from 5-7:30 p.m. April 17 in the Student Union Building Alumni Room. He will be joined by Truman student Richard Shewmaker. Marshall will also be signing copies of his book, “Play Me Something Quick and Devilish,” available for purchase at the Truman Bookstore. This event is sponsored by Folklore Studies and the Truman Bookstore.

Truman French students will perform “Exercices de style” in French, with English subtitles provided, at 8 p.m. April 17 and 18 in the Student Union Building Down Under. For more information, contact Patrick Lobert at plobert@truman.edu.

The Physics Colloquium will continue at 4:30 p.m. April 18 when Amrit Poudel of the Department of Physics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison presents “Efficiency of a microwave photon detector based on a current-biased Josephson junction.”

The Global Issues Colloquium will continue at 7 p.m. April 18 in Magruder Hall 2001 when Anton Daughters, assistant professor of anthropology, presents “Globalization at the Ends of the Earth: Rural Livelihoods and Wage Labor in Southern Chile’s Archipelago of Chiloé.”

The Wind Symphony I Concert will take place at 8 p.m. April 18 in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall.

The Music Department Spring Gala will take place at 7:30 p.m. April 27 in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall. A broad range of ensembles will be featured.

Many Truman faculty, staff and students are involved in helping raise money and gathering canned food for multiple local organizations. One of those organizations is the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri at sharefoodbringhope.org. Walmart is splitting $3 million to 100 different food banks across the county and the decision on who gets that money is based upon the number of votes each one gets from now until April 30. A person can vote every day. To vote, go to wm8.walmart.com/Hunger and for “Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri.”

Celebrate National Library Week and support local food pantries by donating non-perishable items to the Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri.

The library will waive $1 in fines for every food item donated through April 26.

For more information, visit the Library Service Desk in the library or call 660.785.4533.