Vazzana Named Missouri Professor of the Year

Tony Vazzana, assistant professor of mathematics, has been named the 2002 Missouri Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. This national recognition program, established in 1981, rewards outstanding professors for their dedication to teaching, commitment to students and innovative instructional methods.

Vazzana joined the faculty at Truman in 1998. He received his bachelor’s degree from Notre Dame and his master’s and doctorate degrees from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Vazzana was awarded the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2000 and the students selected him as the Educator of the Year that same year. He has taught a range of different mathematics courses at Truman, including the newly developed MATH 194 Liberal Arts and Sciences Calculus. He is also developing a pair of textbooks in collaboration with his colleagues.

“It is a great privilege for me to teach at Truman and to have the opportunity to work with such bright students,” Vazzana said. “The positive experiences that I have had in the classroom are a direct result of the enthusiasm students bring every day, and I feel that this award is a reflection of their ability and dedication.”

This year there are winners in 45 states and the District of Columbia and four national winners. Vazzana was selected from 422 faculty members nominated by colleges and universities throughout the country. Paul Crabb, professor of music, and Dean Van Galen, professor of chemistry and vice president for university advancement at Truman, were honored as the 1998 and 1991 Missouri Professors of the year, respectively.

Ensemble Galilei to Ignite Holiday Spirit

Ensemble Galilei will perform at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 9, in Baldwin Auditorium, as part of the 2002-2003 Kohlenberg Lyceum Series.

This musically talented ensemble is composed of an intricate mix of musical instruments played by five women born in four decades of the last century.

The group, named for the composer Vincenzo Galilei, was formed in 1990. They perform Irish, Scottish, early and original music that is produced by the sounds of instruments such as the Scottish small pipes and the Celtic harp.

Ensemble Galilei is expected to celebrate the joyous spirit of the holiday season by performing music from their “A Winters Night” album.

Tickets are free to students, faculty and staff with a University ID. They will be made available starting today at the Student Activities Board Office or in the Center for Student Involvement, both located in the Student Union Building lower level.
Students to Intern in Missouri Capitol

Fourteen Truman State University students will begin legislative internships at the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City next semester as part of the Missouri Government Internship Program. The internship provides an inside look at state government. While in Jefferson City, the interns will be assigned to public officials based on compatibility and interests. The interns work with their legislator and his/her staff on a variety of jobs and tasks.

The Truman interns will begin working with state representatives, legislators and in statewide offices with the start of session Jan. 8.

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The spring interns are Allison Bruns, senior political science and philosophy/religion double major from Washington, Mo.; Gregg Christian, junior political science major from St. Louis; Matthew Crowell, sophomore political science major from Harrisonville, Mo.; Jason Gubbins, junior justice systems and psychology double major from Parkville, Mo.; Thoko Kachipande, senior sociology/anthropology major from Silver Spring, Md.; Matt Kleinsorge, senior philosophy/religion major from Washington, Mo.; Erin McManis, junior political science major and philosophy/religion double major from Kirksville, Mo.; Rachel Ohmer, senior communication major from Kirksville, Mo.; and Wayne Yocum, senior political science major from Brookline, Mo.

Europe in Transition Informational Sessions to be Held

Students interested in an international study opportunity can attend informational meetings about the annual Europe in Transition travel/study program.

Students can study the European Union, Bergen, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Oslo and Amsterdam. They can earn six hours of LSP credit, with three hours satisfying the inter-cultural requirement. The program runs May 14-31. Study begins Feb. 1 to prepare for the experience.

Informational meetings will be held at 6 p.m., Dec. 4; at 6 p.m., Dec. 5; and at 2:30 p.m., Dec. 6. All meetings will be in Violette Hall 1432.

Contact Mary Giovannini in Violette Hall 2448, by phone at 785.4365, or by e-mail at maryg@truman.edu for a brochure and further information.
Notables


Gloria Kwok, associate professor of French, read a paper, “<La représentation de l’Indochine française dans ‘Ma Soeur aux yeux d’Asia’ de Michel Ragon>” at the Mid-West Modern Languages Association Nov. 5-10 in Minneapolis.

Paul Parker, professor of political science, has had his book, “A portrait of Missouri: Photographs from the Farm Security Administration,” published by the University of Missouri Press.

Alan Altmansberger, senior theatre major from Ballwin, Mo.; Akela Cooper, junior English major from Hayti, Mo.; Benje Douglas, junior justice systems major from Kansas City, Mo.; Yorba Johnson, junior classics major from Kansas City, Mo.; and Elizabeth Vanderhoof, sophomore, theatre major from Boonville, Mo.; performed “Collected Lives: Memory in Motion, Building Diversity Through Performance” at the Association of American Colleges and Universities Conference Oct. 26 in St. Louis.

Truman Presented with Red Cross Good Neighbor Award

Truman State University received the Good Neighbor award from the American Red Cross Nov. 19 in the Student Union Building. The University has worked with the Missouri-Illinois Blood Services Region for years. The award is presented to an individual, group, or organization outside of the American Red Cross for having made significant contributions to the community by neighboring with the Red Cross to provide needed services.

Student organizations Alpha Phi Omega, Cardinal Key and Blue Key also received certificates from the American Red Cross.

Percussion Ensemble Performed at Convention

The Truman State University Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of Michael Bump, assistant professor of music, was a featured performing ensemble at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention Nov. 13-16 in Columbus, Ohio.

Being invited to perform at the convention is considered an extremely high honor for a college/university ensemble. Truman was one of three ensembles selected earlier this year from more than 75 college/university ensemble applicants worldwide. Selection was based upon a formal tape screening, diversity in repertoire, as well as a proven history of outstanding performance.

This four-day annual convention is the premiere event of the percussion field, annually attracting 5,000 professional and student performers, educators, composers and instrument designer/manufacturers.

The Truman Percussion Ensemble performed a concert titled “The Marimbas of the World,” featuring Mexican Marimba artist, Steven Chavez, a native of Chiapas, Mexico, for their invited performance.

Members of the Truman Percussion Ensemble consist of music majors, minors and non-majors. Members are selected from an audition process held at the beginning of each semester.
The Faculty Development Weekly Lunch Series will meet from 12:30-1:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 4, in the SUB Spanish Room. The topic, “William O’Donnell Lee Advising Award Winners,” will be lead by Kevin Minch. Contact Faculty Development at 785.4391 for more information.

The Language and Literature Division will present a reading by David Hamilton, editor of The Iowa Review and author of “Deep River: A Memoir of a Missouri Farm,” at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 5, in the SUB Governors’ Room.

“Scars: Peeling Away the Layers” by Jay Ballanger will be on display at the University Art Gallery until Dec. 7. Admission to the gallery is free and its hours of operation are: 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday; and noon-4:30 p.m., Saturday. The Board of Governors will have a meeting at 8:30 a.m., Dec. 7, in the SUB Conference Room.

All faculty and staff are invited to attend the Holiday Open House from 3-5 p.m., Dec. 11, at the University Residence. The Chariton Valley Audubon Society will sponsor the Kirksville Christmas Bird Count Dec. 14. They are asking for volunteers to help count all the birds within seven and a half miles of downtown Kirksville. There will be free doughnuts, juice, cocoa and coffee in the morning and results will be compiled at a free dinner. There also is a prize for the individual who spots the most unusual bird. Contact Pete Goldman at pgoldman@truman.edu or at 785.4632 for more information.

Faculty and staff interested in giving blood at the University Wellness Program sponsored faculty/staff blood drive should sign up by Dec. 13 on the sheets distributed to campus offices. The blood drive runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Dec. 18, in the SUB Activities Room. Appointments are not necessary, but are preferred. All participants should bring identification.

Interested in a long term immersion experience in French and German without actually leaving the country? Then help create a French/German House by letting your faculty know you’re interested. Contact Timothy Farley by e-mail at tfarley@truman.edu or Andrea Davis by e-mail at andavis@truman.edu for French and/or German. They need student input.

Scholarship Opportunities Available

There are three available scholarships with January deadlines.

The Alumnae Panhellenic Association of Greater Kansas City is offering educational grants and interest free loans to female college students who are residents of the greater Kansas City area, attending Kansas or Missouri schools. Applicants must be a senior or graduate level student at the beginning of the next academic year, with at least a 3.0 GPA. Applications must be submitted by Jan. 15. They are available at www.kcpanel.com or in the Financial Aid Office in McClain 103.

The Glen Smiddy Memorial Scholarship deadline is Jan. 17. The scholarship is sponsored by the Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation Department District Board for a summer 2003 internship. The intern will receive $1,000 and will be encouraged to explore the possibility of using the internship to fulfill academics for his or her major. The internship is open to area residents and preference is given to applicants with a farm background and/or are studying an agriculture related field.

Glamour magazine is sponsoring a 2003 Top Ten College Women Competition. Winners receive a $1,500 cash prize, a trip to New York City, opportunities to meet with top female professionals and national recognition in Glamour’s Oct. 2003 issue. Applicants must be full-time juniors for the 2002-2003 academic year and have leadership experience, involvement on campus and in the community, excellence in the field of study and unique, inspiring goals. Applications must be postmarked by Jan. 31 and may be obtained in the Financial Aid Office, McClain Hall 103, or by e-mailing ttcw@glamour.com.