

Truman *today*

A weekly newsletter for students, faculty and staff

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GROUP PROJECTS ENHANCED WITH GOOGLE APPS

Studies show that today's students and instructors are increasingly turning to collaborative or group assignments to create significant and authentic learning experiences.

However, group projects are not always easy to coordinate. Enter Google Apps: tools available at Truman for students and teachers to easily work asynchronously and collaboratively on documents, presentations, drawings and whole websites.

The apps use a "wiki" construct to make this possible. Students can engage in real-time editing between multiple users at once and see what the other people are typing as they type it. Links to shared documents and projects can even be posted on Blackboard to make a class assignment easily accessible.

To take a tour to see how this is possible, visit <http://www.google.com/google-d-s/tour2.html>.

See the Learning Technologies Team in Pickler Memorial Library 205 or call 785.7750 for more information.

Kohlenberg Lyceum Event

Axiom Brass

7:30 p.m.

Nov. 30

Baldwin Hall Auditorium

SAB Comedians Michael Ian Black and Mike Birbiglia Set to Perform Dec. 11

Comedians Michael Ian Black and Mike Birbiglia will perform at 7 p.m. Dec. 11 in Baldwin Hall Auditorium.

Michael Ian Black is a multi-talented actor, writer, comedian and director. His most recent comedy series, "Michael and Michael Have Issues," appeared on Comedy Central this past year. Black also created, starred in and co-wrote the Comedy Central series "Stella." He is also one of the lead commentators on VH1's "I Love the..." series.



Michael Ian Black

Black appeared opposite Paul Rudd and Janeane Garofalo in the USA Films cult hit "Wet Hot American Summer" and for four years he starred on NBC's hit drama "Ed." Early in his career, Black co-wrote and starred in the acclaimed MTV sketch comedy show "The State." From there, he co-created, co-wrote and starred in the Comedy Central series "Viva Variety."

Comedian Mike Birbiglia is best known for

his 2009 hit show "Sleepwalk With Me." Birbiglia closed out 2009 with a 35-city Comedy Central Live tour called "Mike Birbiglia: I'm In The Future Also," selling out concert halls nationwide.

His long-standing relationship with Comedy Central has resulted in three of his own standup specials, including the critically acclaimed one-hour special "What I Should Have Said Was Nothing." At the end of the year, Birbiglia's 2007 Comedy Central Records release "My Secret Public Journal Live" was named one of the "Best



Mike Birbiglia

Comedy Albums of the Decade" by The Onion AV Club.

Tickets for this event are available now in the SAB Office in the lower level of the Student Union Building. Tickets are free for Truman students and \$10 for general admission. The SAB

Office is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The show begins at 7 p.m. and doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

University Receives Grant to Support Local Foods

Truman was recently named a recipient of funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, which seeks to enhance the competitiveness of crops such as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture and nursery crops.

The University's "Farm-to-College as a Catalyst for Specialty Crop Production" project will receive \$28,970 in funding. This project involves coordinating with Sodexo to facilitate the production, procurement and delivery of locally grown fruits and vegetables to campus dining

services. Truman's is one of 13 projects across Missouri selected to receive funding through this program.

The one-year Specialty Crop Block grants are funded through USDA's Agriculture Marketing Service Specialty Crop Block grant program. The grants total approximately \$55 million nationwide, with more than \$340,000 being awarded in Missouri.

For more information, visit the Missouri Department of Agriculture at <http://mda.mo.gov> or the USDA at <http://usda.gov>.

Master of Arts in Leadership

Truman will begin offering courses in the new Master of Arts in Leadership graduate program in Spring 2011.

The program includes a solid theoretical foundation in personal and organizational leadership, plus experiential learning consisting of simulations, case studies and internships that will enable students to progress from the study of leadership to its application and practice.

For more information, see <http://gradstudies.truman.edu/areasofstudy/Leadership.asp>, e-mail cyoung@truman.edu or call 785.4109.

Professor's Day Out

10 a.m.-4 p.m. • Dec. 5
Baldwin Hall 252
Sign up by Dec. 3
Cost is \$7 per child

Want to do a little Christmas shopping? Just need a little R&R? Let Truman's Half Full Players take your kids for a day.

Children or grandchildren (ages 4-11) are invited to join the Half Full Players for crafts, entertainment and a chance to perform. Contact enecka@truman.edu to reserve a spot or with any questions.

Half Full Players Children's Theatre Troupe is "for the kids." The Troupe performs at local elementary schools every semester and works towards increasing children's literacy and appreciation for the arts through entertainment.

UPWARD BOUND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Upward Bound is seeking Spring 2011 employees. Application reviews will begin immediately and continue until positions are filled. Application packets and information are available at <http://ub.truman.edu> or call Donna at 785.4244.

Truman Delta Sigma Pi Receives Most Outstanding Chapter Award

Last month, Truman's chapter of Delta Sigma Pi was selected as the Most Outstanding Chapter in the nation.

National officers presented the award to Matt Vennemen, president of the Iota Nu chapter of Delta Sigma Pi at the LEAD (Leadership and Excellence Academy for Deltasigs) School in Indianapolis, Ind.

The National Most Outstanding Chapter Award is given to the chapter that best exemplifies the purpose of Delta Sigma Pi. The chapters are evaluated on professional activity, community service, fundraising, academics and others.

In addition to the National Most Outstanding Chapter Award, the chapter also won the national award for Most Outstanding Professional Activities, the Provincial award for Most Outstanding Chapter and Professional Activities and Outstanding Scholastic Development for the Gateway Region.

The Iota Nu Chapter of Delta Sigma Pi continuously strives to improve its programs in

order to represent Truman effectively. The chapter was founded Dec. 9, 1978. Since then, it has claimed the National Most Outstanding Chapter Award nine times, which is more than any other chapter. The International Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi was founded at New York University, School of Commerce, Accounts and Finance Nov. 7, 1907.



Members of the Truman (Iota Nu) chapter of Delta Sigma Pi display the Most Outstanding Chapter award. Truman's chapter has now received the award nine times.

Delta Sigma Pi, a professional fraternity, is one of Truman's organizations open only to students majoring in business, accounting, or economics. Delta Sigma Pi is involved

in a number of activities across campus, including: co-sponsoring the Career Expo; managing the University's concessions business, which provides food service at all athletic events; providing speakers to students to encourage professional development; tutoring for the Junior Achievement program, which teaches basic economic concepts to young students in Kirksville's elementary classes; and participating in Relay for Life, to name a few.

Health Students Support Local Food Pantry

The major service-learning project for this fall's HLTH 150 Nutrition class was a food drive to benefit the Salvation Army food pantry in Kirksville.



Students (left to right) Lynley Aleksandrian, Hannah Williams and Danielle Boyer take donations at Hy-Vee.

Students from HLTH 150 organized and secured donations. With help from students in HLTH 290 Principles of Health, they collected donations of food and money Nov. 6 and Nov. 13 at Hy-Vee Food Store. They also manned tables in the Student Union Building and

Violette Hall on campus during the week of Nov. 8-12.

The HLTH 150 food drive for the Salvation Army netted 20 large boxes of food donations and nearly \$200 in cash.

In addition to the food drive, the HLTH 150 class also helped to unload a semi-trailer of food delivered to the Salvation Army food pantry in October.



Truman students form an assembly line to help unload a truck of donations to the Salvation Army food pantry.

Buckner Awarded NSF Funding for Collaboration with Iowa State Researchers

Brent Buckner, professor of biology, recently received notification that a proposal entitled "Functional structural diversity among maize haplotype" submitted to the National Science Foundation's Plant Genome Initiative has been funded.

Buckner is a co-principal investigator on this award and will collaborate with principal investigator Dr. Patrick Schnable and co-principal investigators Dr. Carolyn Lawrence and Dr. Daniel Nettleton, all of Iowa State University.

During the two-year grant period Buckner's lab will receive \$188,000 while the entire collaborative grant is funded at \$3 million.

The focus of this proposal is to test the hypothesis that differences in gene copy number (both gains and losses) contribute to the

extraordinary phenotypic diversity and plasticity of maize.

The proposed studies will ultimately inform crop improvement strategies. For example, to help adapt crops to climate change it may be desirable to reintroduce into breeding germplasm stress resistance genes and genetic diversity inadvertently lost during domestication.

This grant will provide funding for three student research internships in each of the next two summers. In addition, the grant provides for the hiring of a postdoctoral teacher-scholar who will work with Buckner to develop the professional skills that are consistent with success at a predominantly undergraduate institution where teaching and research are mutually supportive.

NOTABLES

Donald Bindner, assistant professor of mathematics, and Martin Erickson, professor of mathematics, had their textbook "A Student's Guide to the Study, Practice, and Tools of Modern Mathematics" published by CRC Press.

Alexandra Czahor, a spring 2010 graduate, was awarded the Truman State University Distinguished Master's Thesis Award for 2011 for "Native and Nonnative Speakers' Perceptions of Syllable Initial Voiced Stop Consonants in Three Contexts: Non-manipulated, Edited to Remove VOT and Edited to Remove Formant Transitions." Czahor has also been selected as Truman's nominee for the annual MAGS

Distinguished Master's Thesis Award. Czahor's thesis adviser was Paula Cochrane of the Department of Communication Disorders. Other faculty members serving on Czahor's thesis committee were Janet Gooch, Ilene Ashbaugh and Sally Cook.

Masahiro Hara, professor of Japanese, had a paper entitled "Real-Time Reading and Reactivation Evidence of Syntactic-Gap Processing in Japanese Scrambling" accepted for inclusion in Selected (Peer-Reviewed) Proceedings of Second Language Research Forum 2009. This research was partially supported by Hara's Truman Faculty Summer Research Fellowship.

ON-CAMPUS ATHLETICS



Dec. 1

**Women's Basketball
v. Missouri Southern**
5:30 p.m.

**Men's Basketball
v. Missouri Southern**
7:30 p.m.

Dec. 3

**Men's Swimming
v. University of Missouri**

**Women's Swimming
v. University of Missouri**

Dec. 4

**Men's Swimming
v. University of Missouri**

**Women's Swimming
v. University of Missouri**

**Women's Basketball
v. Pittsburg State**
1 p.m.

**Men's Basketball
v. Pittsburg State**
3:30 p.m.

THE GIVING TREE

11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Nov. 30-Dec. 2

Student Union Building Publicity Tables

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to take ornaments containing wish lists from local children who may not otherwise receive gifts this holiday season. Ornaments should be taped to the wrapped gifts and returned to a table by 2 p.m. Dec. 2. For more information or for additional opportunities to pick up or drop off an ornament, contact jcr3482@truman.edu.

Sponsored by Phi Sigma Pi.

6TH ANNUAL RENAISSANCE MADRIGAL DINNER

*Sponsored by the Department
of Music and Chamber Choir*

6:30-10 p.m.
Dec. 3 & 4

Student Union Building
Activities Room 3200

Adults- \$22
Students- \$17

Children 2 and under- Free

Featuring a multi-course dinner,
music and revelry.

Tickets may be purchased at
<http://music.truman.edu/madrigal>.
For more information, contact
jgill@truman.edu.

STAFF RECOGNITION AWARDS

Human Resources and the Staff Recognition and Development Committee encourage faculty and staff to submit nominations for the following awards:

The Bulldog Award

is presented to departments that have demonstrated exceptional customer service to individuals within and/or outside of Truman.

The Points of Excellence Award acknowledges staff members who have made the effort to offer the very best in student services and educational delivery.

Visit <http://hr.truman.edu/recognition/index.asp> for more information about the awards.

Door Decorating Contest

In anticipation of the holidays, the University and Community Relations Committee of Staff Council will bring back the well-received Holiday Door Decorating Contest.

Contact Stacy Tucker-Potter at stuckerpotter@truman.edu by Dec. 1 to enter your office or department door in the contest.

Doors must be completed and ready to be judged by Dec. 10. Winners will be announced Dec. 14.

Students Attend AFA Leaders' Conference



Four Truman students attended the 2010 Agriculture Future of America (AFA) Leaders' Conference Nov. 4-7 in Kansas City, Mo. Joining more than 500 undergraduate students from 50 universities, delegates participated in a unique blend of seminars covering personal finance, leadership development, public speaking and ethics. Additionally, students networked with agricultural corporate executives, employers and policy-makers at a forum and opportunity fair. Since 1996, the AFA Leaders' Conference has served as a catalyst in preparing the next generation of agricultural leaders. Truman's four attendees (pictured, left to right) were Marianne Emery, Sam McKinley, Bridget Waller and Brittany Early.

NOTES

The Physics Colloquium will continue at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 1 in Magruder Hall 1000 with a presentation by Shoab Usman of the Department of Nuclear Engineering, Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Shawn Joyce, a 2006 Truman linguistics graduate, will be a featured speaker as part of the English and Linguistics Senior Seminar Conference. Joyce will present the keynote address, "Foreign Languages and Linguistics in the Working World," at 12 p.m. Dec. 2. His talk, "Translation as a Career," will take place at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 3. The whole Senior Seminar Conference, with sessions on creative writing, ecocriticism, folktales, the Great War and storytelling, runs from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 2-3 in the Student Union Building Georgian Rooms.

Peter Rolnick, professor of physics, will speak at the Mathbio Colloquium at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 2 in Magruder Hall 2050.

The men of Phi Sigma Kappa, in association with the Department of Public Safety and the Kirksville Police Department, are sponsoring a Self-Defense and General Safety Awareness Seminar at 6 p.m. Dec. 2 in the Kirk Gym. This seminar will be broken down into two sessions, the first being a demonstration by DPS of basic self-defense techniques as well as a general Q&A session, followed by a taser demonstration by the Kirksville Police department. This event is open to all Truman students, faculty and staff as well as the general public. For more information, contact Michael Brelsford at mjb3328@truman.edu.

The Truman State University Percussion Ensembles will present their annual "Percussion Fall Sampler" concert at 8 p.m. Dec. 2 in Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall. Under the

direction of Michael Bump, associate professor and director of percussion studies, and Vincent Wallace, graduate teaching assistant, the program will feature the Music Department's Concert Percussion Ensembles I & II in an exciting and diverse selection of music for percussion. The program will include Pat Metheny's, "First Circle," Jan Bach's, "Woodwork" and David Gillingham's classic work for percussion orchestra, "Stained Glass," among others. Admission is free.

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) will meet at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 3 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 True Men Winter Concert will take place at 8 p.m. Dec. 3 in Baldwin Hall Auditorium.

The Board of Governors will meet at 1 p.m. Dec. 4 in the Conference Room of the Student Union Building.

Megan Wargo, Truman volleyball assistant coach, will conduct a meeting at 7 p.m. Dec. 7 for parents and students ages 12-18 interested in participating in Kirksville Club Volleyball. Teams will practice two times per week and play in regional tournaments. For information about the meeting, contact Wargo at mwargo@truman.edu or 660.341.9610.

The Student Activities Board will sponsor "Holiday Lights" at 8 p.m. Dec. 8 at Kirk Memorial. "Holiday Lights" is an event where Truman students can celebrate the holiday season. Kirk Memorial will be lit up with lights and a cappella groups True Men, Minor Detail and Sweet Nothings will perform. There will be free hot chocolate and cookies.

Blood Drive

11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Dec. 8

Student Union Building
Down Under

In the spirit of giving, the University and Community Relations Committee of Staff Council is hosting a Staff Council Blood Drive.

Donation only takes about an hour and saves up to three lives. To further expedite the process, make an appointment in advance at <http://redcrossblood.org>.

SIFE COFFEE GIFT CARD SALE

From 8-11:30 a.m. every Monday morning until Christmas, SIFE will be selling coffee gift cards with a handmade Christmas card at the Coffee Corner located in the west entrance of Violette Hall.

The gift card can be used during any Monday Morning Mochas sale at the Coffee Corner throughout the year. It's the perfect gift for a friend who appreciates hot chocolate, tea, mochas or coffee in the mornings.

Sponsored by
Students in Free Enterprise.



Food For Fines

Pickler Memorial Library is hosting a Food for Fines event Nov. 29 through Dec 3. Donated food will waive fines. One item equals \$1.

Bring your items to the Circulation Desk and help support the Central Missouri Food Bank, which helps families in need in Adair County.

Everyone (with or without fines) is encouraged to donate food during this week. For questions, call 785.4533.