Earlier this year, the Truman State University Board of Governors announced a new slate of officers. Chosen to serve as president was Michael Schwend, Kirksville, Mo. Sarah Burkemper, Troy, Mo., was elected to serve as vice president, and Ruth Mach, St. Louis, Mo., was selected as the new secretary.

Schwend is the chief executive officer of Preferred Family Healthcare, Inc. of Kirksville, Mo. He earned two degrees from Truman, a bachelor of science degree in psychology in 1983 and a master of arts degree in counseling and guidance in 1990. Schwend also earned a master’s degree in business administration from William Woods University in 1997. Schwend was appointed to the Board in March 2001.

Burkemper is the public administrator for Lincoln County (Mo.) and is a certified public accountant in Troy, Mo. Burkemper was a Pershing Scholar and graduated cum laude with two bachelor’s degrees from Truman in 1992. She also received a master’s in accountancy from Truman and a master’s in international affairs from Washington University in 1997.

Mach is the principal of Meramec Elementary School in the Clayton, Mo., School District. A Truman graduate, she earned her master’s degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia and her doctorate from Saint Louis University. She holds certification as an elementary school administrator, reading specialist, teacher of the learning disabled, and teacher of the behaviorally disturbed.

He University’s challenge to provide a learning environment with cutting-edge equipment received a boost when Senator Kit Bond announced that $1.5 million has been secured from federal funding for Truman State University. The money is earmarked for the purchase of life sciences lab equipment for Magruder Hall.

“This money for new labs in Magruder Hall will help Truman play a leading role in Missouri’s drive to remain the national leader in the life sciences revolution,” Bond said. “By staying at the cutting edge of this new industry, we are making sure that Missouri remains a magnet for good-paying, high-technology jobs.”

The University will use the money to purchase equipment for a new biochemistry laboratory, organic chemistry laboratory, animal science laboratory and advanced cell/molecular biology laboratory, and for a new classroom and laboratory facility for agriculture education and research at the University Farm.

significant progress can now be seen on the Highway 63 construction project between Macon and Kirksville, Mo., which is widening the road from two to four lanes. In recent months, the contractor responsible for the construction mobilized the area and began grading and earthwork. According to the February/March 2004 issue of the Highway 63 newsletter, “The most visible grading work will be seen first at the south end, since grading the southern end is easiest.” For the latest updates, visit www.hwy63.com.
The Board of Governors has endorsed a proposal to renovate Truman's residence halls and the Student Union Building. Over a seven-year period, the University plans to replace obsolete mechanical, electrical, and heating systems; to incorporate major health and safety enhancements, such as fire sprinklers and air conditioning in all buildings; to improve living/learning spaces and dining facilities; to enhance community spaces, such as lounges and group study rooms; to eliminate all rooms housing three or four students; and to add about 400 new beds in a suite-style design to compensate for the lost triple and quad rooms.

"Although constructing a new residence hall is part of the proposed first phase, it is important to understand that long term our goal is not to have an increase in students housed on campus," President Barbara Dixon said. "Future residence hall renovation plans call for the reconfiguration of triple and quadruple rooms into doubles. In order for us to remain competitive, we must look at updating our residence halls to better serve our students' needs."

The components of the proposal have been based on an in-depth study of University needs and student perceptions conducted by M itchell Associates. The residence hall project will be funded by a bond issue, which will be financed through revenue generated by the facilities. It is anticipated that in addition to supporting student recruitment and retention, this project will have a positive impact on the economy of Kirksville and northeast Missouri as this proposed construction proceeds.

**spotlight on JULIA DELANCEY / Reconstructing Art History**

Researching the dyes and pigments used in Italy during the 14th and 15th centuries, a Truman professor pieces together clues to discover more about art from the Renaissance period—a time that experienced a burgeoning cultural awareness that was influential in the creation of an expressive means of painting.

For the last several summers, Julia DeLancey has traded her office in the Fine Arts Building for a desk in the archives of Italy. An associate professor of art who teaches art history at Truman, DeLancey has traveled abroad several times to conduct research on the pigments and dyes that were imported and exported and sold in Italy during the Renaissance period.

DeLancey conducts much of her research in the state archives in Florence and Venice, both of which contain a huge range of documents such as letters, wills, tax documents, personal papers, and account books. Many of these documents, especially those from the Renaissance period, are hand-written which at times can make her undertaking a little more challenging. "One of the most overwhelming memories that I think anybody who has worked in the archive has is the moment when you have gotten the research grant, you travel there, you get your apartment and get everything settled, you head out with your laptop on day one, you find the document that you have traveled hundreds or thousands of miles to see, you open it up and you think 'I can't read a single word on this page,'" says DeLancey. "One thing you can do is find someone to help guide you through it because people used different abbreviations and different short-hand, and they sometimes used very different spellings."

As she combs through the archival materials, DeLancey pieces together bits of history. "I spent one summer looking at evidence that was gathered as part of a court case involving the color sellers guilds in Venice," says DeLancey. She compares the guilds of the Renaissance period to the modern-day professional organizations, such as the American Bar Association or the American Medical Association, which maintain professional standards and help protect the interests of its members. "This particular court case involved a market-share dispute between two guilds in Venice," says DeLancey. "One of the most exciting things happens when I've gotten an e-mail from a student who went to New York or one who is studying abroad, and they've gone to see something we talked about in class - then I know they really care about it," says DeLancey.
Board Approves Tuition Increase

The Truman State University Board of Governors approved in-state enrollment fees for the 2004-2005 academic year. Fees for full-time undergraduate students will be $5,410, a $710 increase per year. Out-of-state fees for full-time undergraduate students will be $9,510, a $710 increase per year. The Board also set the room and board fee for 2004-2005 at $5,175 for a two-person room. When enrollment fees and room and board fees are combined, the bottom-line cost for both in-state and out-of-state students is slightly more than eight percent.

These fee increases are necessary due to increases in fixed operating costs, the state's continuing budget problems and the necessity of preserving the quality of Truman's educational programs. Funds will be used for such things as equipment and campus technology purchases, as well as to continue institutional financial aid programs for students.

Eminent Kashmiri Educator Visits Campus

Agha Ashraf Ali, a noted academician and teacher educator from India, visited Truman in February as a featured presenter in the University's Global Issues Colloquium. Ashraf is known as a proponent of secular Islam and presented a session on India's history of and prospects for religious tolerance. "One of the students wanted to know if I had met Gandhi," says Ashraf. "When she discovered I had, she said she wanted to touch me."

Ashraf, who has spent the last 60 years as an educator and teacher, retired in 1982 as the Commissioner of Education for the State of Kashmir. In 1960, he received a Fulbright Fellowship to come to the United States and was awarded a doctoral fellowship at Ball State University where he received his PhD in 1964. "I was fascinated by the problems that American education faced then," says Ashraf, "of the droves of students coming from southeastern Europe." In one classroom of 45 students, there were 44 nationalities represented. "The basic question was whether it was a melting pot or a salad bowl," says Ashraf. "To me, the glory of your civilization is that people were welcomed to the land of opportunity, each bringing their own contribution."

"Today, the world is so small due to advances in science and industry that you cannot live without a broad-minded tolerance at least, if not compassion, for understanding true comparative literature," says Ashraf. "I would love to see general courses in the universities in the United States in comparative literature and the sociology of religion, so that we can appreciate all the religions, which are basically the same with the message being to look after the poor and the oppressed," says Ashraf.

"Such a wonderful feeling—almost poetic justice—that it has taken thousands of years for man's ingenuity to produce industry and technology which, for the first time, make it possible for the poor to get out of slavery and the back-breaking toil of domestic servants and other menial jobs that humiliate man, woman, and child," says Ashraf. By harvesting the forces of nature through science, Ashraf says that man has made it possible for all human beings to live in equality without human exploitation. "What has happened with science and industry—-to have all these gadgets—has made it possible for us to do without domestic help, so that we can all live in dignity."

Since 1998, Ashraf has been helping run what he calls a poor man's school in the city of Srinagar. "Because of the trouble in Kashmir, there are so many widows who cannot support themselves," says Ashraf. "We help train them with skills, and it's catching on."

One of Ashraf's daughters, Hena Ahmad, is an associate professor of English at Truman, and Ashraf says he admires the whole atmosphere at the University. "I'm glad to see that Truman has been able to maintain the sense of education as a mission rather than calling it an industry," says Ashraf.
Fossil Hunting Expedition to Antarctica

From Nov. 22 to Dec. 20, 2003, Jeffrey Osborn, associate professor and convener of biology, ventured to Antarctica to collect fossil plants from the Permian and Triassic ages (280 million years ago and 235 million years ago, respectively). This was Osborn’s second field excavation expedition with the United States Antarctic Program, first participating in 1992, funded by grants from the National Science Foundation.

In total, Osborn spent 38 hours each way in the air to travel from Kirksville, Mo., to the field sites in Antarctica. The first stop outside of the United States was the south island of New Zealand, Christchurch. In Christchurch, the research teams were outfitted with standard issue extreme cold weather (ECW) clothing, some of which had to be worn at all times, including during flights to, from, and while in Antarctica. From New Zealand, the teams flew to McMurdo Station, on the northwest edge of Antarctica. McMurdo is the main American base, run by the National Science Foundation. At this staging site, teams attended snow survival school, a two-day program (or a refresher course after five years) giving instruction in areas such as pitching and securing tents in snow, building snow walls or igloos, and knot-tying. With strong winds and between 40 to 50 feet of snow (during the summers), they built “Quinzy” structures, which the team constructed by burying their bagged gear, covering it with packed snow, then removing the gear and digging out the inside to use as a shelter in case of an emergency.

Participants then flew to a base field camp near the Beardmore Glacier, the largest glacier on the earth, via LC-130 Hercules turboprop flights, which the participant guide described as “not designed primarily for passenger convenience.” “Let’s just say there was no in-flight movie,” said Osborn, who endured the hours of flight sitting on cargo straps.

At the Beardmore camp, each science team slept and ate in tents, and flew by helicopter to the various field sites, the farthest of which was about an hour away, and all of which had landing strips of solid ice. During the summer, the “frozen desert” of Antarctica experiences 24 hours of daylight, but still averages a temperature of 80 degrees below zero with winds often anywhere from 30 to 50 miles per hour.

From these collection sites, Osborn and his team gathered more than 8,000 pounds of fossils, which were identified and will be transported by way of ships to the United States, once the sea ice surrounding the continent has melted. These organisms will be housed at the University of Kansas, which boasts the “best and most complete collection of Antarctic fossils in the world.” Osborn, along with his student researchers and colleagues from the University of Kansas, Dartmouth College, and Musso Paleontological Egiio in Argentina will work to reconstruct the plant assemblages which is possible because the organisms are preserved as petrifactions, being fossilized in a fully intact, three-dimensional fashion.

Osborn has found that these excavations and research provide valuable information to pass along to students and enable paleobotanists to study and record information about certain plant systems, many of which are completely extinct. “We better understand the evolution of major groups of plants,” said Osborn.

Registration in the Tunnel a Thing of the Past

via a new online registration process implemented by the Registrar’s Office in March, the registration lines formerly found in the tunnel in McClain Hall are now history. The Registrar’s Office celebrated a major milestone when the tunnel that had been used for registration at Truman since Fall 1983 was used for that purpose for the last time on Jan. 16.

“The new web registration is more convenient for students, and it gives them more control in the registration process,” says Kay Anderson (’94) (’01), interim registrar. “Once their registration time begins, students can register and make schedule changes virtually anytime, from anywhere.” In addition, Anderson says students now have extensive access to real-time information about courses to help them make wise registration decisions.

In the short time that the new registration system has been in use, it has already saved time for both students and staff. “On our first night of web registration for Summer 2004, we processed the same number of registrations in a half hour via the web that we did in eight hours in the tunnel at the same time last year,” says Anderson. “This change allows us to provide the type of service and the level of technology that students expect from an institution like Truman.”
**Student Accolades**

- Chris Bay, senior mathematics and computer science double major from Fenton, Mo., and Mackenzie Taylor, junior biology major from Stuart, Neb., were two of 310 students selected as Goldwater Scholars for the 2004-2005 academic year. The recipients were selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of 1,113 mathematics, science and engineering students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide. The one- and two-year scholarships will cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to a maximum of $7,500 per year. The Goldwater Foundation is a federally endowed agency established by Public Law 99-661 on Nov. 14, 1986. The Scholarship Program honoring Sen. Barry M. Goldwater was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering. The Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in these fields.

- Sarah St. John, *Index* editor in chief and a senior communication journalism major from Excelsior Springs, Mo., was named the Missouri College Media Association Journalist of the Year at the Association’s annual convention April 2-3 in St. Louis. St. John also won first place in the individual awards category of investigative reporting.

  In addition, a number of *Index* newspaper staff members won awards at the convention. The MCAA Contest is administered by the Missouri Press Association and is judged by professional journalists throughout the state. Twenty-eight colleges entered this year's contest which covers publications from the 2003 calendar year.

- Truman State University’s debate team recaptured the national debate championship April 11, at the National Parliamentary Debate Association National Championship Tournament at California State University-Northridge. The team of Marie Tenny, junior psychology major from Villa Ridge, Mo., and Ian Samuel, junior computer science major from Pueblo, Colo., established a new record losing only one ballot in the entire tournament and capturing the first national championship for the Truman team since it first took the national title in March 2000. Their win placed them at the head of an unprecedented field of 302 debate teams from 102 colleges and universities and several international teams. The Truman team passed prestigious institutions such as the University of California-Berkeley, the Air Force and Naval Academies, the University of Notre Dame and the University of Missouri-Columbia. Samuel was the national champion speaker; and Tenny was the runner-up. Several other members of the debate team placed in the competition.

  At the ninth annual Missouri MAA Collegiate Mathematics Competition, Truman’s Team A won first place and Truman’s Team B won fourth place. This is the first time both Truman teams have won an award. Twenty-five teams competed in the contest this year which was held at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Mo., April 1-2.

- Truman ranked No. 22 in the nation for the number of American Chemical Society-certified bachelor of science graduates in chemistry for the 2001-2002 academic year. The Truman chemistry department tied with Georgia Southern University, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Illinois at Chicago and San Diego State University with 22 ACS-certified chemistry graduates for the 2001-2002 academic year. The "Top 25" was figured using statistics based on the number of graduating American Chemical Society-certified chemists. Biochemistry majors are not included under this heading.

- The Truman Academic Competition Organization won the Regional College Bowl Incorporated tournament Feb. 21 at Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Mo. Truman defeated 11 different teams from the Midwest.

- The Truman Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team was one of the champion teams that competed in the USA Regional Competition in St. Louis April 2. The team will compete in the USA National Competition in Kansas City May 23-25. The team was also named the Rookie of the Year Team and was a finalist for National Fiscal Fitness Month. SIFE encourages students to take what they are learning in the classroom and apply it to real-life situations, using their knowledge to better their communities through educational outreach projects.

- Truman students won 18 Mark of Excellence awards in the Society of Professional Journalists Competition for Region VII. The six Truman students who won first place will continue on to the national Mark of Excellence competition. Region VII consists of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska.

For additional news, see www.truman.edu.
Summer Forensics Workshop for High School Students and Coaches

Truman State University has revived its summer forensics program geared toward high school students and their coaches. Kevin Minch, assistant professor and director of forensics, describes the Show Me Forensics Institute as a comprehensive forensics workshop that offers learning opportunities in individual events and Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and an intensive seminar in argumentation designed to help students in Public Forum (Ted Turner) Debate, Parliamentary Debate, Student Congress, and informal argumentation activities.

"Truman State University's Forensics Program values all forensic activities," says Minch. "Consequently, our students and staff excel at merging what's best about debate and individual events. All students, regardless of their program of study, will leave our institute as better critical thinkers, better speakers, and better competitors."

The summer camp will be staffed with high school teachers to better develop partnerships between high school programs and Truman State University. Current outstanding Missouri high school coaches will play an integral role in developing and teaching the curriculum in individual events, and coaches actively involved with successful high school programs will also shape the Lincoln-Douglas and argumentation curriculum.

"Among the staff are a number of award-winning coaches and the vice president of the National Forensics League," says Minch, who believes that the future of high school forensics is in the hands of high school students and their coaches. "Our faculty -- from the director down -- is composed almost exclusively of current and former high school coaches and/or competitors," says Minch. He expects the program to draw high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors primarily from Missouri and its border states. "However, we have advertised the program nationally and have made arrangements to facilitate air and rail transportation for students from further away who wish to attend," says Minch.

The Show Me Forensics Institute will offer two sessions this summer. The two-week session will run from June 27 to July 10, and the three-week session will be held June 27 to July 17. For more information visit the program's web site at http://forensics.truman.edu/SMFI/index.htm.

New Web Site Features University History, Traditions and Trivia

A new History, Traditions and Trivia Web Page is up and running at http://library.truman.edu/archives/history.htm. "Topics include fun campus life trivia, some historic facts and current bits of info, but the Veterans M emorials section is of particular note," says Elaine Doak, Special Collections librarian/archivist. The web site also features sections on building names, the Flame to the Second Century, the Laying of the Wreath, some memorabilia, the University Presidents, and former names of the school, as well as the school colors and school songs.

Student Journal

Brad Dohack, a sophomore business management/information systems major from St. Louis, Mo., shares some of his views on life as a college student.

On the path of life, decisions have to be made that affect every subsequent step we take. Like many other teenagers, as a senior in high school, I was faced with making one of the biggest decisions in my life. I left my comfort zone in St. Louis, Mo., and entered Truman State University as a Truman Leadership Award recipient in the fall of 2002. At that point, I was far from being ready to decide on my major, much less what I wanted my future career to be.

During my first semester, I became a member of Lambda Chi Alpha. The various fraternity offices I have held have helped me further develop leadership skills essential to my success. The next major stepping stone at Truman came in the form of a speech at this year’s Freshman Convocation. This honor encouraged me to reflect on my first year at Truman and inspire the class of 2007 to take full advantage of their time at Truman.

While reflecting upon my freshman year, I realized that I had not met my full potential as an undergraduate student at a liberal arts college. I felt that I needed to become more involved in the Truman community. Since then, I have become a member and officer of the American Marketing Association, a member of the Order of Omega (honors), a City Hall volunteer, and the student representative on the Higher Learning Commission’s committee for planning the future of the University. My involvement has instigated a better sense of making a real difference in the functions of the University as a whole.

With two more years to go, I have endless opportunities ahead. Truman has provided me with the tools necessary to be proactive in school and in my life thereafter. The future can be a scary thing for those who are unsure of exactly where their lives will take them, but my experiences at Truman have made life after college seem less daunting and more like another stepping stone on the path of life.