At the University's annual Foundation Banquet held on campus April 2, University President Barbara Dixon presented the 2005 President's Leadership Award to former University President Charles McClain. The President's Leadership Award is presented annually to recognize the most significant personal contributions made to Truman by its alumni and friends. The award is one of the most prestigious honors bestowed by the University.

Prior to serving as president of Truman State University for nearly 20 years, McClain founded Jefferson College in Hillsboro, Mo., in 1963, where he served as president for seven years. He went on to serve various schools in the capacity of assistant professor, school superintendent, elementary school principal, and elementary teacher, as well as assistant professor and assistant dean for the College of Education at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

From 1970 to 1989, McClain served as president of Truman, where his vision and outstanding leadership helped the school refocus its mission. During this time, McClain established a value-added program to track the strengths and weaknesses of Truman students, and as a result of such innovative ideas for education, the University received national recognition for its academic excellence and assessment programs. Under McClain's leadership, the University received the G. Theodore Mitau Award for Innovation and Change in Higher Education, the highest award from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. One of McClain's greatest achievements at Truman took place in 1985 when the University's mission changed from a regional comprehensive university to the state's liberal arts and sciences university.

In 1989, McClain was selected by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education to serve as Missouri's commissioner of higher education, and he later worked as a consultant for the U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Mo. In 2003, McClain was appointed to the position of interim professor of endowed education, heading a newly formed Community College Teaching and Leadership Academy at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. More recently, McClain served as the interim head of the Columbia Independent School.

Over the years, McClain has remained a strong supporter of Truman State University. He is the namesake for McClain Hall, and in 1999, he was recognized as Grand Marshal of Truman's Homecoming Parade. That same year, he initiated a matching gift campaign to raise funds for the Pershing Scholarship program at Truman which was instituted during McClain’s tenure as president and is the most prestigious scholarship awarded to incoming Truman freshmen. Some of the nation's most academically talented students receive the scholarship, which provides tuition and room and board, as well as a $4,000 stipend for study abroad.

McClain received a bachelor of science in education from Southwest Missouri State University in 1954. He earned a master of education in 1957 and a doctor of education in 1961, both from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He and his wife, Ann Covington, reside in Columbia, Mo. He has two daughters, Anita and Melanie, who are both Truman graduates.
New Members Appointed to Foundation Board

Six new members have joined Truman State University’s Foundation Board of Directors. University President Barbara Dixon recently appointed Tom Ballard (69) of Granger, Iowa; Sarah (Hartmann) Burkemper (92) of Troy, Mo.; Guy Burton (53) of Leawood, Kan.; Kara (Tuck) Geisert (93) of Liberty, Mo.; Larry Lunsford (81) of Overland Park, Kan., and G. Ruth (Black) Mach (58), of St. Louis, Mo., to the Foundation Board.

A Truman alumnus, Ballard graduated with a bachelor’s in science degree in 1969. He retired as vice president for Cordant Technologies, a leading aerospace design, technology and manufacturing company.

Burkemper, a 1992 Truman graduate, is a CPA and serves as the public administrator of Lincoln County (Mo.). She is also the current president of the Truman State University Board of Governors.

Burton earned two degrees from Truman in the 1950s. A former high school teacher, coach and administrator, he now owns Sun and Swim Pools in Grandview, Mo. Burton has crafted and donated various bronze busts to the University over the years.

Geisert earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Truman in 1993. Along with her husband, Christopher, she was honored as the 2001 Young Alumni of the Year. Geisert owns a scrapbooking store in Liberty, Mo.

Lunsford, a 1981 and 1983 graduate of Truman, is the founding president of the University’s Alumni Association Board and a past Foundation Board member. He serves as the vice president of finance for the retail division at Bernstein-Rein Advertising, Inc. in Kansas City, Mo.

Mach recently retired after 20 years of service as principal of Meramec Elementary School in the Clayton, Mo., School District, and is now serving as an elementary assistant superintendent with the St. Louis Public Schools and working part-time for the Clayton School District, serving as a specialist in the Human Resources Department. A graduate of Truman, she earned her master’s degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia and her doctorate from Saint Louis University. Mach also serves as the current vice president for the University’s Board of Governors.

The 22-member Foundation Board of Directors has the responsibility of overseeing fund raising, public relations and alumni relations for the University.

A Case for Charitable Remainder Annuity Trusts

Ophelia Alumna, 80, is a loving and giving woman. This is especially true when it comes to her grandchildren, Ruth and Ryle. From the time Ruth and Ryle were born, Ophelia would tell them about her great educational experience at Truman State University. She would bake them cinnamon rolls that tasted just like the ones she used to eat at ‘The Huddle.’ Thus, it was no surprise when Ruth and Ryle decided to attend Truman for college. After four years of studying hard in Pickler Memorial Library, Ruth and Ryle graduated from Truman with honors and were accepted at Ivy League Medical School. As a retired biology teacher, Ophelia is thrilled. However, Ophelia cannot believe the prices for tuition, room and board nowadays. The projected cost of four years of medical school is $150,000 per student or $300,000 for two students. Taking into account the rising costs of higher education and the limited resources of Ruth and Ryle’s parents, Ophelia wants to ‘take care of it all.’

Question: How could Ophelia accomplish her goal? Is there a charitable planned giving vehicle that she could use?

Solution: Ophelia considered creating a charitable remainder annuity trust (CRAT) for a term of years. Specifically, Ophelia would transfer $400,000 of appreciated stock into a short-term, high-payout CRAT. The CRAT would last for four years and have a 20 percent payout. A very nice benefit of a CRAT is that each payment would be a fixed annuity not subject to the ups and downs of trust investments.

The CRAT would provide $80,000 annually, or $40,000 per year per grandchild. Since most of the annuity payout would be capital gain income, Ruth and Ryle would have a blended capital gains rate well below 10 percent (low-income taxpayers have a five percent federal capital gains rate as opposed to a 15 percent capital gains rate.) Over the four years, the CRAT would distribute $320,000 for Ruth and Ryle’s medical school education, which meets Ophelia’s giving goals. After the four years, Truman State University would receive the remainder of the trust.

In addition to the payouts, Ophelia would receive a $109,000 charitable income tax deduction. This would provide a very nice tax savings that would reduce her taxable retirement income. As stated previously, her alma mater would receive a substantial and quick gift. Assuming a modest return of five percent, Ophelia’s favorite charity would receive approximately $141,000 at the end of the four years. Of course, this figure may increase or decrease depending on the trust investments.

Ophelia was amazed with the results of the CRAT. In addition to providing significant funds for her grandchildren’s medical school education, she also benefited both herself and Truman State University.

If you would like more information on charitable remainder annuity trusts or any other charitable planned gift vehicle, please contact Jamie Hansen, planned giving officer, (660) 785-4124 or jhansen@truman.edu; visit Truman’s planned giving website at http://alumni.truman.edu/plannedgifts/index.asp. As with all important legal and financial decisions, please consult your CPA or attorney in deciding which planned gift is best for you.

Information provided courtesy of Crescendo.
Recently Established Scholarships

- L. Scott & Carol D. Ellis Scholarship
- Class of 1954 Scholarship
- Kirksville Area Alumni Chapter Scholarship
- Gordon R. Tobin Jazz Piano Scholarship

Mary Giovannini Scholarship Established

Mary Giovannini, professor of business administration, retired at the end of the fall 2004 semester after 31 years of service to the Division of Business at Truman State University. During her career, Giovannini taught business communications, information systems, and organizational behavior courses. She was instrumental in establishing writing standards in the business and accounting curriculums and served as convener for the business administration discipline. Giovannini also established and directed the “Europe in Transition” study abroad summer experience. Since the mid-1980s, Giovannini had served as coordinator of the Freshmen/Truman Week experience.

More than $6,300 has been raised toward the establishment of the Dr. Mary Giovannini Scholarship. The scholarship will be endowed when it reaches $10,000 and will be awarded to business majors with financial need who have made academic improvement while attending Truman. The fund, when endowed, will benefit many students in the years to come.

New Endowed Scholarships

- Russell W. and Mary Jane Cleeton Scholarship

This scholarship was established through the generous bequest of $100,000 by Russell W. and Mary Jane Cleeton. Russell, a 1941 Truman alumnus, was a graduate of the Seymour, Iowa, high school and died on March 8, 2001. He was a veteran of the United States Armed Forces and spent his career in the insurance industry. Mary Jane (Harvey) Cleeton, a graduate of the high school at Centerville, Iowa, died on Aug. 28, 2004. According to their wishes, preference in the awarding of their scholarships will be given to Truman students who are graduates of Seymour and Centerville high schools who demonstrate clear financial need, scholastic ability, citizenship and the motivation to achieve at the college level.

- Debra Fortenberry Nichols Brass Scholarship

This scholarship was established in 2004 by Debra Fortenberry Nichols ('80)('01) and David C. Nichols in honor of Gregory Jones, professor of trumpet, in recognition of his contributions to music at Truman. The scholarship will be awarded each year to an incoming freshman high brass player (trumpet or horn), with preference given to music majors.

Clay Dawson Choral Scholarship

The members of the Clay Dawson Choral Scholarship Committee would like to extend their appreciation to those who have shown support by contributing to the scholarship fund created as a tribute to Clay Dawson.

The scholarship honors Dawson, who served as the director of choral activities and as the chairman of the voice faculty at Truman from 1965 until 1991, when he retired. The Clay Dawson Choral Scholarship fund had received more than $9,000 at time of publication and is open to additional donations. The minimum amount required to endow a scholarship at Truman is $10,000.

Members of the Clay Dawson Scholarship Committee:

Dean Carroll ('81)
Roger Cody
Arthur Freeland ('78)
John "Vic" Grice ('72)'(73)
Mark Jennings
Dave Kerr ('85)
Miriam (Haag) Koehne ('86)
Dan O'Donnell ('76)'(85)'(87)
Edwin Phelps ('68)'(70)
Scott Piper ('93)
Jody (Kessel) Pontious ('88)'(92)
Robert Pontious ('89)'(92)
W. Allin Sorenson ('83)'(85)
The Truman State University Foundation encourages and administers private financial gifts in support of Truman State University which provide support for student scholarships, improved technology, student loans for computers and study abroad, and support for athletics and other initiatives.

New Annual Scholarships

- **Jeannette Harris and Geraldine Ready Scholarship**
  This scholarship, originally established in 2000, provides financial support for a talented student with high financial need. A new commitment of $4,000 was pledged by Jeannette (Toth) Harris ('71)('78) and Geraldine (Toth) Ready ('70) for the next four years.

Harris and Ready are twin sisters from a family of eight children, all girls. The twins helped each other financially to complete their degrees - Harris in education and Ready in business - and they hope that their scholarship recipients will follow their lead in helping others. Both are members of the Truman Alumni Association Board of Directors. Harris resides in O’Fallon, Mo., and Ready lives in Dallas, Texas. The scholarship will again be awarded to an incoming freshman from Missouri with high financial need. Their first annual scholarship was awarded for four years to Sarah Cooper, a 2005 graduate who is planning to attend Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in the fall.

- **Gregory and Donna Meier and Friends Business Annual Scholarship**
  This scholarship was established in December 2004 by Gregory Meier, a 1989 business administration and accounting major, and Cindy Dodson, a 1987 business administration and business education graduate. It will be awarded for the first time in 2005-2006 according to the following criteria: a business administration or accounting major with a minimum 3.0 GPA who demonstrates leadership on campus and who is not receiving any other academic scholarships.

- **Truman Student Government Scholarship**
  The Student Senate at Truman State University established this annual scholarship in 2004 in an effort to establish and maintain communication with members of the Kirksville community and to recognize outstanding student leaders from Adair County (Mo.). Current or past members of the Student Government are ineligible. It will be awarded to a first-year student from Adair County, based on their previous leadership experience and their current involvement in leadership positions.

- **Gregory and Donna Meier and Friends Newman Center Annual Scholarship**
  This scholarship was also established in December 2004 by Gregory Meier ('89) and Cindy Dodson ('87). They met as students while participating in activities at the Newman Center and established this scholarship to honor the organization and to assist current Truman students. The scholarship will be given to an active member of an off-campus service organization such as the Newman Center. Preference will be given to students with children.

For more information on the Foundation or making a gift contact the Office of Advancement, Truman State University, 100 McClain, 100 E. Normal St., Kirksville, Mo. 63501, (800) 452-6678 or (660) 785-4133.

If you would like to make a contribution to any of the scholarship funds mentioned in Foundation News, please send your gift to the Office of Advancement, Truman State University, 100 McClain, Kirksville, Mo. 63501 or give online at www.truman.edu (click on “Make A Gift”). Please designate the name of the scholarship fund of your choice.