

# The Star

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

## MU, Cerner team up for health institute

By MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS  
The Kansas City Star

The University of Missouri and Cerner announced a marriage Monday to spawn a national example of how to deliver health care, which, they hope, in turn will cut state medical costs by \$1 billion a year.

University President Gary Forsee said the public/private partnership will create The Tiger Institute for Health Innovation.

"We intend to leverage the collective capabilities and resources of Cerner and Mizzou to create a national model for excellent patient care, reduced health care costs, and leadership in next-generation health sciences and technology sector jobs," he said in a prepared statement.

Cerner will kick in an estimated \$100 million in software, hardware, revenues and personnel, which represents the largest capital investment by a corporation in university history.

For its part, the University of Missouri Health System will eventually send about 100 of its computer employees to the North Kansas City-based medical records technology company. About two dozen others will continue to work with Cerner, but as university employees. Forsee said no university jobs would be lost in the change.

"Health care has not yet fully seen the benefits of information technology enjoyed by other sectors of the economy," said Harold Williamson Jr., vice chancellor of the University of Missouri Health System. "The institute will allow us to maximize our own use of information technology and to test new ideas."

Sherry Browne, formerly of Ascension Health of St. Louis, will serve as the institute executive director.

University officials said no additional state tax dollars would be used to fund this institute in the 10-year deal. Profits from any new developments would be divided between MU and Cerner based on their investment ratios.

MU and Cerner expect that the Tiger Institute, which will be owned by the university, will be in a position to obtain federal stimulus dollars for meeting government-mandated requirements for setting up electronic medical records, Forsee said.

The savings to the state, Forsee said, would be made through creating a more efficient health care delivery system.

Initially, the system will connect the entire University of Missouri Health System network of hospitals, clinics and pharmacies on the Columbia campus, which handles more than half a million patients a year.

Officials said the project eventually could expand its service throughout the state.

So far, Forsee said, the institute involves only the Columbia campus. The system's three other campuses are in Kansas City, Rolla and St. Louis.

University faculty members and graduate students now are wondering what, if any, involvement they might have with the Tiger Institute. Gary Ebersole, chairman of MU's four-campus Inter-faculty Council, said the faculty group would meet with Forsee in a few weeks to discuss the institute and their involvement.

Ebersole said he sees the public/private partnership, the sharing of business and the university's intellectual property as "a positive step for MU."

"It seems this may be the only way that universities can stay afloat" in this tough economy, Ebersole said.

The employees affected, Forsee said, "will continue doing the same work, and their jobs would not change."

Initially, their salaries would be paid by the university, but eventually those workers would become Cerner employees, he said.

MU Chancellor Brady Deaton said the partnership is a "perfect example of the university mission to develop cutting-edge ideas."

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# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

## **COLUMBIA, MO. > Information technology jobs are outsourced**

11/22/01 10:29 AM

The University of Missouri Health System in Columbia is outsourcing about 100 information technology jobs to North Kansas City-based Cerner Corp. The computer specialists will continue to work in mid-Missouri, but they'll become Cerner employees. Officials of Cerner and the university announced the partnership Monday. They said the health system will continue to employ about 20 to 30 of its current information technology specialists. Cerner and the university will create the university-owned Tiger Institute for Health Innovation, which will pursue revenue-generating and cost-saving initiatives in health care. The school said the initiative is expected to generate \$100 million over 10 years through Cerner's investment, savings and future innovations.

# BUSINESS JOURNAL

Monday, September 28, 2009

## Cerner, University of Missouri plan health innovation institute

Cerner Corp. and the **University of Missouri** announced plans Monday to create a Tiger Institute for Health Innovation, which is expected to generate revenue for Cerner, save money for the university and potentially reduce health care costs statewide.

The agreement includes an unspecified amount of investment from North Kansas City-based Cerner (Nasdaq: CERN) and yet-to-be-determined contract payments from the university to Cerner. Those details remain to be worked out.

According to a joint news release from the university and Cerner, the institute eventually could extend health care information technology improvements to providers throughout the state.

Cerner estimates those improvements could reduce health care costs throughout the state by as much as \$1 billion annually.

The release said the partnership also could be worth \$100 million to the university when taking into account projected savings from the improved technology, Cerner investments and potential revenue from commercializing products created at the institute.

The institute is expected to "accelerate MU's existing health care information technology projects with Cerner to create one of the nation's most digitized health systems," according to the release.

The institute is also expected to:

- Increase the number of health science and technology graduates at MU.
- Position MU health sciences schools as a hub for research and development of advanced uses of health information technology.
- Expand the Medical Home collaboration between Cerner and the university, a partnership that aims improve care for patients through better management of their health through education and secure messaging with their care provider.

Cerner is a health care information technology company. It ranks No. 12 on the Kansas City Business Journal's list of area public companies.



## **UM to unveil \$100 million partnership**

### **Cerner deal will shift employees.**

By Janese Heavin Monday, September 28, 2009

The University of Missouri plans to announce this afternoon a \$100 million partnership with Kansas City-based Cerner Corp.

Sen. Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia, told the Tribune that system President Gary Forsee outlined the plan to him and Rep. Mary Still, D-Columbia, this morning.

University administrators would not comment, saying a public announcement would be made later today.

The partnership would mean about 100 University of Missouri Health System information technology specialists will become Cerner employees.

Schaefer said he's pleased current workers will retain jobs.

"I encourage public-private partnerships, especially at a time when the state can't provide any more funding and at a time when we're looking at avoiding funding cuts," he said. "This is an opportunity to keep people employed. Whether they're receiving a paycheck from the university or from Cerner, they're still receiving a paycheck."

One employee, asking to remain anonymous, said he's leery of how such partnership would unfold.

"Will they transfer us? Will we be laid off and offered positions?" he questioned. "Some of the employees are close to retirement. We don't particularly care for that option. We don't necessarily want to become Cerner employees."

Administrators were expected to hold a town hall meeting this afternoon to announce the partnership to workers. A news conference was planned for 4 p.m.

University employees have speculated about a Cerner-university deal for months. They told the Tribune earlier this month that they've been kept in the dark.

The UM System Board of Curators met with hospital administrators and what were thought to be Cerner employees earlier this month, but Forsee at the time declined to talk about the nature of the meeting.

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# COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

## **MU and Cerner partner to create Tiger Institute for Health**

By [Angela Hamilton](#), [Ben Wieder](#)

September 29, 2009 | 12:01 a.m. CDT

**COLUMBIA — Gary Forsee, University of Missouri System president, announced a collaboration between MU and Cerner Corp. on Monday that could improve patient safety and could potentially save Missouri residents \$1 billion in the process.**

The newly formed Tiger Institute for Health Innovation would develop an online medical record-keeping system that would enable [MU Health Care](#) to compile an online database encompassing a patient's entire medical history.

An improved electronic record-keeping system could make patient information available to doctors in one click, said Harold Williamson, MU Health Care vice chancellor.

Within a few keystrokes, doctors and other health care providers could view patient information like chronic conditions, prescription drugs and allergies, which could save time for providers and potentially save patient lives.

Currently, Williamson said, it takes 41 keystrokes to call up the medical history of a diabetes patient.

Neal Patterson, Cerner's chairman and CEO, said electronic record keeping also reduces the risk of medical error. According to a [1997 Institute of Medicine study](#) called "To Err is Human," medical error accounts for at least 44,000 patient deaths each year, which, at the time, made it the eighth leading cause of death nationally.

Patterson also said the Tiger Institute's work could save Missouri residents up to \$1 billion annually. That figure was extrapolated from [a study](#) by the RAND Institute on Health Information Technology.

Forsee identified three key areas in which the institute's work could save money for Missouri residents:

- Increased use of electronic medical records regionally and statewide
- Reduced hospital admission rates
- Improved collaboration of care

Forsee said Cerner's partnership with MU is the largest corporate capital investment in the university's history. It is estimated to have a positive impact of \$100 million on MU over the next 10 years, though Cerner's exact monetary contribution is unclear.

The institute will incorporate employees from the Information Technology division of MU Health Care — 100 of whom will be supervised by Cerner, effective Tuesday, Forsee said. They may become full-time employees of Cerner if the company fulfills criteria that are still to be finalized.

A memorandum of understanding, signed by Forsee and Patterson, states that "Cerner will provide the same or better overall compensation to such employees based on their current employer contributions to salary, bonus and benefits."

The two sides plan to formalize the agreement by Dec. 1.

"It allows us to be a real leader in the field of academic health," said James H. Ross, MU Health Care executive director.

He acknowledged that the transition might be a bit uncomfortable but is pleased that the terms of the agreement give current employees "the chance to continue the journey with us."

Collaborating with MU Health Care allows Cerner to "move to the edge of where health care is delivered," Patterson said.

The Tiger Institute aims to put MU Health Care among the top 5 percent of health systems in health care IT by taking a lead in the national migration toward electronic medical record-keeping.

The institute is the result of an existing relationship between Cerner and the UM System dating back to 1996. No competing bids were sought, as Forsee maintained that the new institute will be "cash-flow neutral" for MU. The university does not plan to spend more on the institute than has been currently budgeted for MU Health Care's IT department.

"We've been moving down this electronic medical record path for quite some time," Ross said. "We're probably 80 percent of the way there, and we're moving with Cerner to finish the last 20 percent."

Sherry Browne, former CIO of Ascension Health, was tapped to lead the institute, with other employees expected to be added soon.

Monday's announcement came less than one hour after Forsee, former Sprint-Nextel CEO, formally introduced the University of Missouri System Telepresence Center, an HD teleconferencing facility funded in part by MU's "strategic advanced technology partners," AT&T Inc. and Cisco Systems Inc.

Forsee cited the importance of working with corporate partners to grow while reducing the need for taxpayer support.

"These are the types of things we need to be willing to take on," he said.

## Colleges get federal money for medical research

By MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS  
The Kansas City Star

Two years ago, scientists put a pig's heart and kidney into a baboon, which lived for weeks.

The donor swine came from a lab at the University of Missouri, the scene of two decades of work toward pigs-to-people organ transplants.

Now the MU program, as well as many others across the country, has received an injection of cash from a surprising source — President Barack Obama's \$787 billion stimulus package.

The \$981,000 transfusion comes through the National Institutes of Health, which was allotted \$8.2 billion in stimulus money.

Between them, MU, the University of Kansas, Kansas State University and the University of Missouri-Kansas City so far are bringing in nearly \$30 million in stimulus dollars to study everything from HIV and cancer-fighting drugs to asthma, chlamydia, animal diseases and pain-relieving technology for sufferers of jaw joint disorders.

Some of the money will be spent to modernize laboratories and upgrade equipment.

Jenny Haliski at NIH also spoke of faculty hired, summer jobs, and programs for high school and college students.

"Many of the grant projects selected to get stimulus money are projects the NIH peer-review teams had wanted to fund in the past but did not have the money to support," she said. "These are good quality-of-life kinds of grants."

Steve Warren, vice provost for research at KU, agreed: "Many meritorious ideas to solve human afflictions were being left unfunded."

Universities will not know until the end of this month the extent of their hauls in NIH stimulus grants, but so far:

•MU has received more than \$16 million to fund 36 projects. Rob Duncan, vice chancellor for research, said MU has an unofficial commitment from NIH for an additional \$5.4 million. Researchers there applied for \$133 million in grants.

•University of Kansas researchers have received 37 stimulus-related grants totaling \$8.8 million. They applied for \$118 million worth.

•UMKC and K-State each have been awarded more than \$2 million.

The grants will be made over two years as part of the effort to create and retain jobs and counteract the recession, which has seen state funding cut and endowment investments suffer.

"Federal funding of basic research has been flat or declining over the past five years," said Paul Terranova, vice chancellor for research at the KU Medical Center.

Federal grants already are a huge part of university research — in MU's case, \$160 million last year, or 79 percent of its spending in labs.

But even with a 10 percent bump in federal research money, research directors don't expect too many tangible results emerging soon from campus labs.

Take Alzheimer's research, Warren said. It takes "a very long time and a lot of investment."

But more beacons of hope can be expected from MU's program, which should mean more transplant research. The pigs are genetically modified to eliminate a certain sugar molecule, thus blunting the usual antibody reaction that would cause the transplant recipient to reject the replacement.

As scientists continue to try to refine their results, more hogs will be in demand.

"In order to gear up to produce this additional number of pigs, we have to hire new staff to do it," said Lela Riley, principal investigator at the National Swine Resource and Research Center.

"Without these funds, we'd still be producing a limited number of these pigs — maybe five to eight a year," she said.

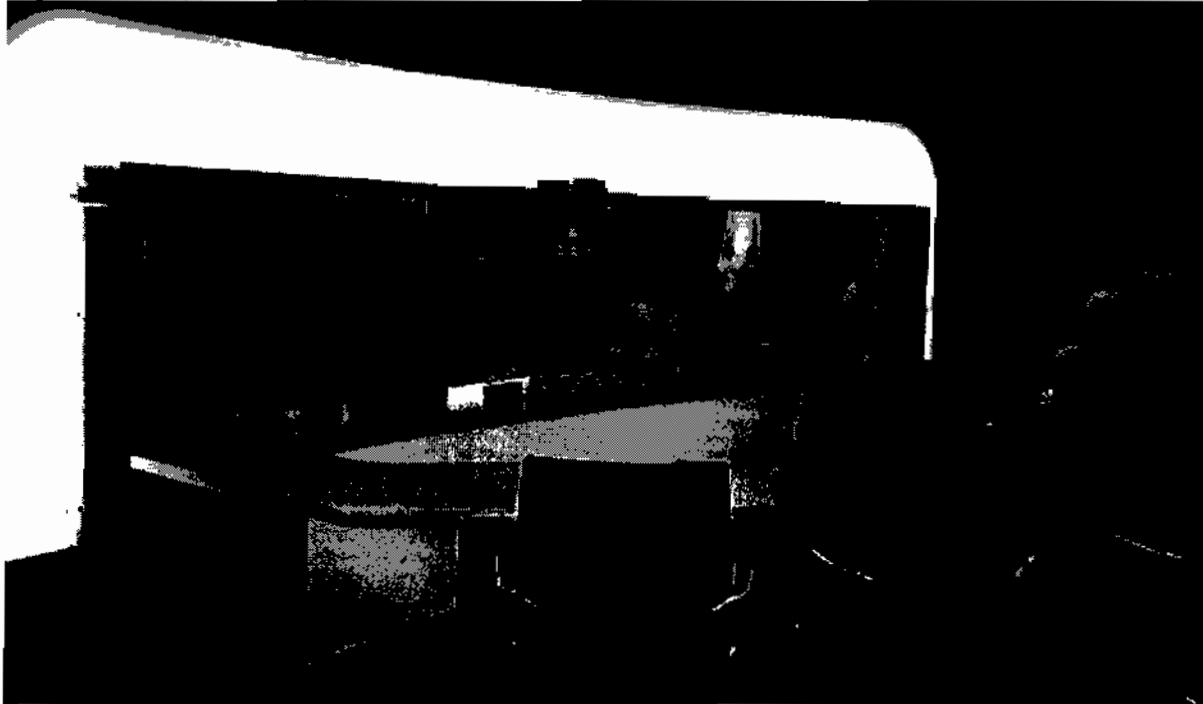
"With the funds, we will produce 60 each year for the two years the grant runs. This really has the potential for long-lasting effects, new jobs. And the hundreds of people who die waiting for an organ may no longer have to."

# COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

## Ellis Library receives new videoconferencing technology

By [Lesley Freeman](#)

September 29, 2009 | 12:01 a.m. CDT



University of Missouri System President Gary Forsee prepares for a teleconference meeting with AT&T and Cisco to unveil the UM system's new TelePresence center located on the first floor of Ellis Library on Monday. According to Ellis Library, Forsee and his wife, Sherry, provided the lead gift of \$1 million to make this system, as well as the three others on UM campuses, possible. † [Lesley Freeman](#)

COLUMBIA — University of Missouri System President Gary Forsee unveiled a new TelePresence center in Ellis Library on Monday. According to the Division of Information Technology [Web site](#), the TelePresence room uses three 65-inch high-definition televisions for a real-life effect when conversing. It can be used to connect those within UM campuses. There are three cameras positioned in the middle of the televisions that are sound-activated to move when the microphones on the tables pick up any sound. The Ellis Library staff also explains that the benefits from this new system includes reduced travel time, travel-related expenses and carbon emissions.

# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

## Who's afraid of political speech?

By Jeffrey Milyo and Tim Groseclose

Jeffrey Milyo is the Middlebush Professor of Social Science at the University of Missouri

The end of democracy is nigh! So say liberal pundits and progressive advocacy groups. The impetus is the Supreme Court's order for reargument in the Citizens United case. At issue, according to reform advocates like columnist E.J. Dionne, is whether corporations will be permitted to donate to the campaigns of federal candidates. This is false.

Corporate contributions to federal candidates have been prohibited for more than 100 years; union contributions have been outlawed for more than 60 years. These prohibitions are not at issue and never have been. The propensity of reformers to exaggerate betrays the weakness of their position.

The question before the court is whether corporations are permitted to engage in speech that might influence public opinion about a candidate. The type of activity being considered is an "independent expenditure"; a category of spending created in recognition of the fact that people have legitimate reasons to weigh in on political issues, quite apart from making direct contributions to candidates. For example, a homemade protest sign might be a kind of independent expenditure, as might a blog in which you express political opinions.

The courts permit restrictions on direct contributions to candidates; the rationale is that unlimited contributions may lead to the appearance of corruption, if not actual corruption. In contrast, independent expenditures, which are made without the cooperation or consent of any candidate, do not raise these same concerns.

In 1990, the Supreme Court held that corporations and unions may not engage in independent expenditures. At the time, this wasn't as crippling to speech as it might be, since "campaign speech" then was defined narrowly to be only those communications that expressly advocate for or against a candidate. This left open many close substitutes for campaign speech, including independent issue ads or direct contributions to political parties. Not surprisingly, many groups

availed themselves of these means of exercising their free speech rights.

That led to a decade of wailing and handwringing over soft money; then as now, reform advocates argued that democracy was slipping away. In 2002, the McCain-Feingold reform restricted contributions to political parties and added an electioneering communications ban, which redefined campaign speech to include any broadcast that mentions a candidate too near an election.

The Citizens United case is about whether people should be allowed to see "Hillary: the Movie." That particular flick never threatened to be a blockbuster, but should it be illegal? The government argues that the movie, which questions Hillary Clinton's character, is the functional equivalent of campaign speech. If so, where are the limits to this sort of reasoning? What about movies that are more subtle in their pitch, like "They Live" or "Bob Roberts"? What if regulators decide that "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" is an allegory for Sarah Palin? These are the issues that the court will address in Citizens United; not whether corporations can cut checks directly to candidates.

And some clarification is needed, as the government originally argued that Congress has the power to regulate political books. Popular books by Al Franken, Ann Coulter or candidates themselves, if funded by a corporation, then would be in the purview of FEC regulators.

Reasonable people may wonder how empowering regulators to outlaw books and movies squares with the First Amendment. Especially since there is no scientific evidence that campaign reforms have any real impact on corruption or the appearance of corruption.

In fact, several states allow direct contributions from corporations or unions to candidates; yet there is no evidence that democracy has been undermined Idaho or Virginia. As a state legislator, Barack Obama collected corporate and union contributions; does that make him corrupt?

Reform advocates avoid these issues by recasting "corruption" to mean any political influence. That's how Sen. McCain could claim that our campaign finance system is corrupt, even though he couldn't identify any illegal activity.

But it is a stilted view of democracy that reserves no place for persuasion in political discussion. The original genius of American democracy is that it encourages open and vigorous debate, even when you don't like the speaker.

**Jeffrey Milyo is a senior fellow at the Cato Institute, the Middlebush Professor of Social Science at the University of Missouri** and the Hanna Family Scholar at the Center for Applied Economics at the University of Kansas. Tim Groseclose is the Marvin Hoffenberg Chair of American Politics at UCLA.

# COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

## MU student robbed in parking lot

By Jessica Matteson

September 28, 2009 | 1:33 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA – **An MU student was robbed around 2:25 a.m. on Monday in Parking Lot HSC1 North, according to a release from the MU Police Department.** The parking lot is located near the intersection of Kentucky Boulevard and Maryland Avenue near Stankowski Field.

According to the release, this is what happened:

The victim said she and an acquaintance were walking east in the parking lot when she felt a hard pull on her purse. As she turned around, the robber reached around and grabbed her from behind.

As she struggled to get away, her purse fell to the ground, and the robber let go of her to try to retrieve the purse.

The victim's male acquaintance grabbed the purse from the ground and began struggling with the robber over control of the purse.

The robber was able to pull the purse free and ran west along Kentucky Boulevard.

The victim did not report any injuries.

The victim and her acquaintance described the robber as a black male approximately six feet tall with a medium build. He was wearing a black ski mask, black hooded jacket and black athletic pants.

Call Detective Michael Laughlin at 884-2605 or Crime Stoppers at 875-8477 with any information.

## Students hope to shine in solar-house competition

By STEVE EVERLY  
The Kansas City Star

An 800-square-foot house may not sound like much, but one recently built in Rolla, Mo., is special enough to take up residence near the Washington Monument.

**The occasion is the Solar Decathlon, for which two Missouri universities have teamed up to compete against 19 other university groups.** Each team has designed and built a renewable energy house that will be part of a "solar village" expected to draw 200,000 spectators on the National Mall.

**This week the entry from the Missouri University of Science and Technology and the University of Missouri** arrives in Washington, and members of the "Show-Me Solar" team will be getting the house situated and operational for the event's 10 contests.

"We're in a pretty good mood," Luke Sudkamp, a senior, said after the house was loaded onto a flatbed truck in Rolla for the trip to Washington.

Think of the Solar Decathlon as an NCAA tournament, but with hoop dreams replaced by dreams of energy independence. The competing homes will be able to use the electric grid but, through their renewable sources, are expected to produce at least as much energy as they use during the several-day contest. The houses will get extra points if they produce an energy surplus, and the winner also will have to do well in categories that include being attractive, comfortable and easy to live in.

The event is backed heavily by the U.S. Department of Energy, which screened and pared 40 entrants to this year's 20 contestants. The department also gave \$100,000 to each of the teams to help with expenses and is allowing the temporary use of the mall — prime Washington real estate.

Federal officials said the highly anticipated Solar Decathlon demonstrated the potential for a clean-energy economy and helped create a generation of scientists and engineers to help solve energy problems.

"These students are remarkable," Energy Secretary Steven Chu said.

The first Solar Decathlon was held in 2002, followed by events in 2005 and 2007. The Missouri University of Science and Technology, formerly the University of Missouri-Rolla, is one of only two schools that have been selected to compete in all four decathlons.

**This year the Rolla university is collaborating with University of Missouri students who are providing their architectural expertise.** This year's competition includes schools such as Cornell University, Iowa State University and Virginia Polytechnic Institute, as well as teams from Canada, Spain and Germany. Technische Univesitat Darmstad in Germany, the 2007 winner, is making a return visit.

The Missouri schools and about 40 of their students have been working for more than a year on the design and construction of the home, at times putting in more than 12-hour days. The students also had to raise the bulk of the project's \$600,000 budget, which paid for the house and other expenses.

The house, which has a bedroom, kitchen and living room, had to be built according to Solar Decathlon rules, including its size and using only off-the-shelf materials or components.

Its dishwasher, washer and dryer meet the Energy Star efficiency standards. Paneling with high-density foam insulation, available from a Jefferson City company, was used for exterior walls. Electricity is generated with 40 photovoltaic panels on the roof.

Solar-heated water — besides being available for showers and dishwashing — circulates through hoses under the floor to help heat the house. A high-efficiency heat pump will provide cooling and backup heating.

The house is programmed to operate at peak efficiency. For instance, if the dishwasher needs to run, it turns on when the water heater is getting the most "solar gain" — meaning more plentiful hot water.

"All the products we used are available" commercially, said Sara Shafer, another Rolla senior.

But that doesn't mean they're cheap. Building the house accounted for about \$350,000 of the Missouri team's budget, illustrating another point about the contest: It's meant to spur creativity and show what's possible, rather than what's economical today.

But as more solar practices are adopted, their costs will come down. And the contest demonstrates that many zero-energy-use designs can be easy and enjoyable to live in and meet the demands of a family.

For instance, one category is home comfort, with the houses needing to stay between 72 degrees and 76 degrees, with a relative humidity of 40 percent to 55 percent. Another category is home entertainment, for which the students have to throw a dinner party for neighbors and have a movie night. Besides showing there will be enough power for such activities, the teams have to show such events can be done to the satisfaction of the guests.

The public will be invited to look at the homes from Oct. 9 to 13 and Oct. 15 to 18, and the 10 contests will be held from Oct. 8 through 16. Past contests have drawn hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Judges will decide which house does best in each contest and announce an overall winner. Then the homes will be packed up to leave the mall.

For the Missouri home, that means a trip back to Rolla, where it will join the school's three previous decathlon entries in the university's own solar village.

Beyond the viability of their technology, the houses show pride in the students who designed and built them, said the school's chancellor, John F. Carney III.

"The future starts to look a lot brighter when you observe the capabilities of our students," he said.

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