



## MU works to link strongest areas of study

**New media, food are two key areas.**

By: Janese Heavin

Monday, October 19, 2009

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that what you eat affects your health. And common sense will tell you why you eat differently in social situations or why our ancestors had to gorge themselves when food was available to survive less plentiful days.

But enter an agricultural program in a typical college and you'll likely never step foot in a medical school, psychology department or anthropology class.

The University of Missouri is ready to change that structure by ramping up its existing strengths.

Mizzou Advantage is a plan that aims to get bright minds from across campus working together to solve real-life problems. Provost Brian Foster unveiled the initiative last month after spending three years alongside hundreds of faculty members identifying MU's strengths and figuring out how to better promote those areas.

Mizzou Advantage highlights five key areas:

**Food for the Future.** In addition to linking agriculture and nutrition to health and medicine, this initiative suggests other disciplines — such as social sciences, history and film studies — include food-related topics in select courses. Pat Okker, chairwoman of the English department, said she could see where literature would have a place in discussions about food as well.

"Many of those" food-related fields "have to recognize the cultural meaning of food," she said. For instance, "birthday cake isn't just flour and sugar; it's got a cultural meaning to it."

**New Media.** This initiative would promote interdisciplinary work between the Missouri School of Journalism and engineering to develop new media technologies. It also looks at how new media and the digital information era affect other disciplines, such as business and policymaking.

**One Health, One Medicine.** MU's medical and veterinary schools and animal science program already work together on research projects, but this would strengthen that collaboration and add public health and safety issues to those studies.

**Sustainable Energy.** This initiative calls for taking better advantage of MU's reactor and promoting biofuels while also tying agribusiness opportunities, transportation, public policy and rural sociology into energy-related studies.

**Disruptive and Transformational Technologies.** Fields such as media, biomedical science and energy are changing with new technologies, and this area will work to ensure MU is ready to take advantage of new opportunities.

In the coming months, a facilitator will be hired in each of those areas to coordinate projects. The facilitators will be senior faculty members already familiar with MU's strengths, Foster said.

The university this year is allocating \$4 million from general operating funds to provide extra resources to the initiatives. A phased-in funding plan eventually calls for \$6 million to better support Mizzou Advantage goals.

The funding also will create certifications in those key areas. For instance, a student majoring in health policy might add 15 credit hours to also earn a certificate in Food for the Future, or a journalism major might pick up the New Media program certification. Faculty members will design 40 new classes tailored specifically for those certifications.

The idea, Foster said, is to better prepare students for the work they'll do after they graduate.

Mizzou Advantage also calls for the university to build stronger relationships with policymakers, industry leaders and experts in various fields. Ultimately, the goal is to ensure research and education is relevant to today's world and that the university has a role in solving real-world issues, Foster said.

Collaboration is key, Okker said.

"I really do believe that virtually every major problem we're facing — I don't care if it's at the state, national or world level — none of those problems can be solved by the knowledge of one discipline," she said. "We have to have students involved in learning and solving problems, and interdisciplinary work is precisely what the university needs to be doing for students today."

# COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

## **UPDATE: MU freshman dies Monday**

Monday, October 19, 2009

BY Christina Manolis, Ben Wieder

COLUMBIA — An 18-year-old MU freshman collapsed and died Monday morning, MU Police Capt. Brian Weimer said.

Tracy Fisher of Dallas collapsed at College Avenue and Rollins Street. The Columbia Fire Department and University Hospital Ambulance Services were dispatched to the scene at 9:48 a.m.

The cause of Fisher's death was unknown Monday evening. The Boone County Medical Examiner, Eddie Adelstein, was not available for comment.

Fisher's parents have been notified, said Frankie Minor, director of MU Residential Life.

Fisher was a pre-journalism major and a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Pi, a Jewish sorority at MU. She lived in College Avenue Hall.

Counseling services are being offered to students at Fisher's residence hall and to her friends, Minor said.

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## Freshman collapses, dies Monday

*Tracy Fisher was an involved resident at College Avenue residence hall.*

By Zach Toombs

Published Oct. 19, 2009

An MU freshman collapsed on College Avenue on Monday morning and died later in the day at University Hospital, MU Police Department Capt. Brian Weimer said.

University Hospital spokeswoman Mary Jenkins confirmed the student was Tracy Fisher, an 18-year-old resident of College Avenue residence hall and member of The Maneater staff.

Weimer said the collapse occurred in the crosswalk at the intersection of College Avenue and Rollins Street.

"It happened at around 10 a.m.," Weimer said. "She collapsed and was sent to the hospital where she passed away. We suspect no foul play."

In an e-mail Monday, College Avenue residence hall coordinator Benjamin Micek notified residents of a meeting on the hall's third floor to discuss Fisher's death and provide counseling services for students.

"Tracy was an active member of the College Avenue community and will be missed," Micek said in the e-mail.

Freshman Elise Oggioni, who lives on the hall's third floor, attended the meeting and said students were told the cause of Fisher's death had yet to be determined, but there would be an autopsy performed either Monday night or Tuesday.

"At the hall meeting at 4 p.m. they told us what had happened and gave us a chance to share anything we might know about the situation," Oggioni said. "There were counselors from the MU Counseling Center there in case anyone needed to talk to them. They basically told us that it was OK to be sad about this."

Oggioni said Fisher's birthday being Oct. 20 was brought up at the meeting.

"Tracy's birthday is actually Tuesday and a few people brought up possibly holding some kind of remembrance for that," Oggioni said.

Fisher was a pre-journalism major and a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Pi, a Jewish sorority, Oggioni said.

# The★Star

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Posted on Mon, Oct. 19, 2009

## Innovation park has new developer

By KEVIN COLLISON

MC Realty has been hired to help develop the proposed Missouri Innovation Park, a 500-acre bioscience research campus planned for Blue Springs.

The Kansas City firm replaces Trammell Crow Co., which left the venture in August. MC Realty will help complete a master plan for the site near Adams Dairy Parkway and Interstate 70 and market it to prospective investors and tenants.

Vince Dasta is president of MC Realty. Dave Lovetere will be the project executive.

The Missouri Innovation Park was announced last year, and the University of Missouri has a memorandum of understanding with Blue Springs Growth Initiative to participate.

It is intended to mirror a similar effort on the Kansas side of the area, a research park in Olathe that has Kansas State University as a partner.

The slowdown in the economy, however, prompted Trammell Crow to leave the Missouri-side deal. Blue Springs officials believe MC Realty is equipped to keep the proposal on track.

"The MC Realty team through Vince provides invaluable experience in pulling disparate finance and development tools together to make deals happen," Mayor Carson Ross of Blue Springs said in a statement.

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# Los Angeles Times

## Times research: Value added sources

In reporting on the value-added approach, The Times interviewed a dozen leading experts and reviewed more than two dozen research and policy papers from proponents and skeptics.

The following is a list of some of the papers reviewed by The Times:

### Primers and Policy Briefs:

"Increasing the odds: How good policies can yield better teachers." National Council on Teacher Quality. 2004.

"Policymakers' guide to growth models for school accountability: How do accountability models differ?." Pete Goldschmidt, Pat Roschewski, Kilchan Choi, William Auty, Steve Hebbler, Rolf Blank and Andra Williams (Council of Chief State School Officers). 2005.

"Practical considerations for using value added models for monitoring teacher effectiveness." Pete Goldschmidt. Value Added Modeling Meeting, Sacramento, Calif. 2008.

"Using student progress to evaluate teachers: A primer on value-added models." Henry I. Braun (Educational Testing Services). 2005.

"Teacher education: Coming up empty." Kate Walsh (National Center on Teacher Quality). 2006.

"The widget effect: Our national failure to acknowledge and act on differences in teacher effectiveness." Daniel Weisberg (The New Teacher Project). 2009.

### Academic Research:

"Estimating teacher impacts on student achievement: An experimental evaluation." Thomas Kane (Harvard University) and Douglas Staiger (Dartmouth College). 2008.

"Identifying effective teachers using performance on the job." Robert Gordon (Center for American Progress), Thomas J. Kane (Harvard Graduate School of Education) and Douglas O. Staiger (Dartmouth College). Brookings. 2006.

"What does certification tell us about teacher effectiveness? Evidence from New York City." Thomas Kane, J.E. Rockoff and D.O. Staiger (Harvard). 2006.

"Teacher quality in educational production: Tracking, decay and student achievement." Jesse Rothstein (Princeton University). 2009.

"Does student sorting invalidate value-added models of teacher effectiveness? An extended analysis of the Rothstein critique." Cory Koedel (University of Missouri) and Julian Betts (UC San Diego). 2009.

"A study on the impact of Teach for America teachers in the Los Angeles Unified School District." Vazha Nadareishvili (RAND). For the Broad Foundation. 2008. (Unpublished)

"Teacher preparation and student achievement." Donal Boyd, Pamela Grossman, Hamilton Lankford, Susanna Loeb and James Wyckoooff (Calder Center). 2008.

"Teacher credentials and student achievement in high school: A cross-subject analysis with student fixed effects." Charles T. Clotfelter, Helen F. Ladd and Jacob L. Vigdor (Calder Center). 2007.

"Evaluating value-added models for teacher accountability." D.F. McCaffrey, J.R. Lockwood, D.L. Koretz and L.S. Hamilton (RAND). 2003.

"Teacher Deselection." Eric A. Hanushek (Stanford University). Forthcoming.

"Teachers, schools, and academic achievement." S.G. Rivkin, E.A. Hanushek and J.F. Kain. National Bureau of Economic Research working paper. 2000.

"Harming the best: How schools affect the black-white achievement gap." E.A. Hanushek and Steven G. Rivkin. Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. 2009.

"Teacher Quality." Eric A. Hanushek and Steven G. Rivkin. Handbook of the Economics of Education.

"Evidence, politics, and the class size debate." Eric A. Hanushek in The Class-Size Debate. Economic Policy Institute. 2002.

"Does teacher certification matter? High school teacher certification status and student achievement." D. Goldhaber and D. Brewer. Educational evaluation and policy analysis. 2000.

"Is it just a bad class? Assessing the stability of measured teacher performance." Dan Goldhaber and Michael Hansen. Center for Reinventing Public Education working paper. 2008.

"Assessing the potential of using value-added estimates of teacher job performance for making tenure decisions." Dan Goldhaber, Michael Hansen. Center for Reinventing Public Education research brief. 2008.

"Controlling for student background in value-added assessment of teachers." Dale Ballou (Vanderbilt University), William Sanders and Paul Wright (SAS Institute). Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics. 2004.

"Teacher and classroom context effects on student achievement: Implications for teacher evaluation." Paul Wright, Sandra P. Horn and William L. Sanders (University of Tennessee, Value-Added Research and Assessment Center). 1997.

"Teacher effects and teacher effectiveness: A validity investigation of TVAAS (Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System)." H. Kupermintz. Educational evaluation and policy analysis. 2003.

"The sensitivity of value-added teacher effect estimates to different mathematics achievement measures." J. R. Lockwood, Daniel F. McCaffrey, Laura S. Hamilton, Brian Stecher, Vi-Nhuan Le and José Felipe Martinez (RAND). 2007.

"Letter report to the U.S. Department of Education on the Race to the Top fund." National Research Council, Board on Testing and Assessment. 2009.

"The value-added achievement gains of NBPTS-certified teachers in Tennessee." J.E. Stone. 2002.

"Estimating teacher productivity using a multivariate multilevel model for value-added analysis." Yeow Meng Thum (UCLA). 2003.

"Teacher quality, teacher licensure tests and student achievement." Richard Buddin and Gema Zamarro (RAND). 2008.

"Teacher qualifications and middle school achievement." Richard Buddin and Gema Zamarro (RAND). 2009.

"Teacher effects on longitudinal students achievement." Heather Jordan, Robert Mendro and Dash Meerasinghe. 1997.

"A potential outcomes view of value-added assessment in education." Donald B. Rubin, Elizabeth A. Stuart and Elaine L. Zanutto (American Educational Research Assn.) 2004.

"Teacher credentials and student achievement: Longitudinal analysis with student fixed effects." Helen Ladd (Duke University). *Economics of Education Review*. 2007.

"Teacher certification reconsidered: Stumbling for quality." Kate Walsh (The Abell Foundation). 2001.



Open Column

## Power outage was a blessing to MU fans

Monday, October 19, 2009

**Editor, the Tribune:** How wonderful to watch a football game without all the blasted noise from the announcer, the advertisements, the blaring music. You were able to watch the field, pay attention to the referees, the sideline down markers, listen to Marching Mizzou and hear the fans yelling. Oh how wonderful to have a power outage and enjoy a real football game. All that's new often is not all that great. Go Tigers.

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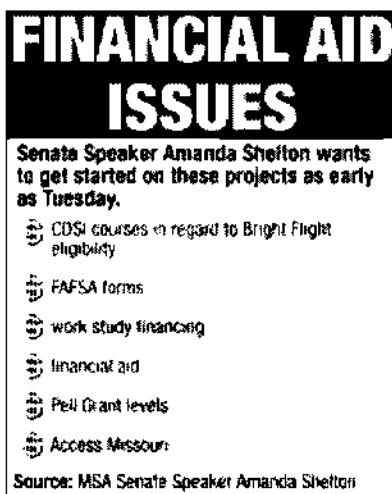
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## MSA to partner with Office of Student Financial Aid

*MSA's goal is to help students navigate the financial aid process.*

By Kaylen Ralph

Published Oct. 20, 2009



Spencer Pearson/Graphic Designer

The Missouri Students Association will begin looking into student financial aid issues after a meeting last Thursday with Financial Aid Director Jim Brooks.

MSA Senate Speaker Amanda Shelton and Senate Clerk Lakeisha Williams set up the meeting with Brooks after Williams brought a problem she was having with one her scholarships to Shelton's attention.

"I'm working on graduating early, so I wanted to you use my Brooks Scholarship during the summer in order to do so," Williams said. "The financial aid department told me no, but Academic Retention Services told me otherwise."

Other students have experienced problems regarding the application of their scholarships at MU. Whether this is a result of internal problems in the financial aid office or the scholarships themselves is unclear.

Freshman Nona Jenkins experienced problems with the distribution of some of her scholarships at the beginning of the semester. Jenkins approached the financial aid office with her concerns.

"They just told me to call my scholarship and ask them when they were going to send the money," Jenkins said. "They couldn't help because they didn't know when the scholarship was being sent. They weren't really helpful at all, because they had no control over my outside scholarship."

Shelton said the point of Thursday's meeting was to establish a closer working relationship with the financial aid office in order to make the first step in the exploratory phase of financial aid projects.

"We now have several more offices and individuals to contact to follow up on the more immediate issues and also some planning to do for state legislature lobbying efforts in the spring," Shelton said.

Among a number of specific programs and scholarships brought up in the meeting, including the Bright Flight scholarship, Pell Grant levels and Access Missouri, the general topic of the overall financial aid situation in the economy was discussed.

"We talked about the Bright Flight Scholarship, federal funding and various other topics," Williams said. "It was basically an informational meeting for us, MSA, to better understand how the financial aid system works. From here we're working on how we can tackle some issues we discussed at a student level."

Shelton said MU has seen a 16 percent increase in the number of students filing FAFSA, work study requests are up and the total number of financial aid appeals for special circumstances from the beginning of the semester through Oct. 1 is greater than all of last year's requests combined.

Student Communications Director Tim Noce, who is running unopposed for MSA president, said his dialogue between MSA and the financial aid office will be beneficial to achieving some of his goals.

"That ties in a really well with the part of our platform regarding fiscal responsibility," Noce said. "I'm paying for the majority of school through working, student loans and scholarships. I lost \$4,000 this year because I didn't get a grant that I have in the past and I'm not sure why."

Williams said though there is nothing concrete as of yet, these issues are ones she, Shelton and the MSA Multicultural Issues Committee will tackle in the near future.

"A lot of students don't know what to do as far as financial aid issues go," Williams said. "The goal is to help students and provide comprehensive financial support."

On Friday, Shelton and Operations Committee member Sami Ware will have the chance to represent MU at a roundtable discussion regarding these issues with Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., and representatives from all other UM system schools.

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## RHA, MSA work to lower parking costs

*Jim Joy, MU Parking and Transportation Services director spoke with RHA about its resolution.*

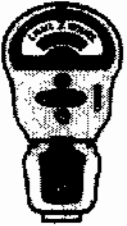
By Luke Udstuen

Published Oct. 20, 2009

**PAY TO PARK**

Temporary passes or meters are available for students and visitors to pay to park if they don't have a pass.

- Student meters \$ 60
- Visitor meters \$1
- Hett Street garage meters \$ 70 for 75 minutes
- Day pass \$4
- Week pass \$12



Source: Parking and Transportation Web site

Katie Prince/Graphic Designer

**PROPOSED LOTS FOR PARKING FEE CHANGE**

A resolution to support all matching parking fees with lot conversion was passed at the student government joint session.



Spencer Pearson/Graphic Designer

Jim Joy, director of MU Parking and Transportation Services, spoke with the Residence Halls Association on Monday about a joint resolution passed by RHA and the Missouri Students Association over concerns about high parking prices.

"When I saw the resolution saying, 'I wanna pay less,' I just had to laugh out loud," Joy said. "There are many people wondering why you don't pay more."

Joy has been at MU for 34 years, dealing with many of the same issues about parking. He has been proactive in working to create sufficient parking spaces and a fair parking system to govern available spaces.

"Everything around the football field, all of that parking was gravel and empty," Joy said. "Because six days of the year it was used for football, and belonged to the athletics department."

Joy went to the athletics department and requested to allow him to manage the spaces near the football stadium.

"I'll pave them, I'll put lights on them, I'll maintain them, I'll collect the revenue from them," Joy said. "And six days of the year, I'll clear them so you can have football. That (policy) still exists today."

Joy also said all students are inconvenienced equally for lack of parking spaces and it's something that comes with life at a university.

"Every day of the week someone gets inconvenienced, sometimes with no warning whatsoever," Joy said.

He said some inconveniences are bigger than others.

"Last year, for the centennial celebration of the J school, Hitt Street Garage was cleared for one week," Joy said.

He said every day someone has a program that impacts parking spaces in some way.

RHA President Rachael Feuerborn clarified the reason for the resolution.

"It's not about moving the cars," Feuerborn said. "The cars will always be moved. It's all about the money and what we pay. Like I've said 100 times, it's a marketing system, people paying more to park closer and paying less to park farther away."

Emily Garner, chairwoman of the Campus and Community Relations Committee, emphasized MSA's goals of reducing student's fees all around.

Although her concerns at the beginning of the semester were to try to solve tailgating issues with Reactor Field, she said she would now focus her efforts on parking.

"I haven't done anything personally with it," Garner said. "It's a goal for my committee this semester to meet with Jim Joy. We want to find out facts, as to where exactly the money is going, to see if there's a way to make things cheaper."

Joy, who knows policies of other universities, also brought up their parking situations.

"Ohio State doesn't allow cars for neither freshmen nor sophomores," Joy said. "Football players and other athletes are the exceptions."

Garner wanted to know why parking is so expensive in the first place.

"We don't know why it's so expensive to park in metered lots," Garner said. "A quarter gets you 15 minutes. I think the university should let the students know where the money is going."

Feuerborn was pleased with the feedback Joy provided and said the fight will continue.

"I think Joy had a really good presentation, he gave us a lot of facts and will help us tweak the resolution," Feuerborn said. "We're going to keep with it and keep trying to make some changes with parking."

Joy pointed out parking is limited for everyone.

"I never required you to bring a car here," Joy said. "If you don't, you're not hurting my feelings."

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## Editorial:

### RHA has far to go with parking proposal

*The proposal needs concrete requests if it is to be taken seriously.*

Published Oct. 20, 2009

Driving becomes a nightmare for students who are required to move their cars on game day.

Students parking in lots WG1, SG4, SG5, SG7, SG9, RP10, CG1, Maryland Avenue Garage and Parking Structure 7 must move their cars for every home football game.

At last week's joint session between the Missouri Students Association, the Legion of Black Collegians, the Graduate Professional Council and Residence Halls Association, RHA proposed a resolution in which parking permit fees would be reduced for students in those nine lots.

They propose if fees cannot be reduced, the university should be more lenient on handing out parking tickets on game days. This is also fair.

In theory, this bill is great for students who park on campus. Students should have the fees reduced for the days they are not allowed to park in their assigned lots. These students experience a burden other students parking on campus do not, and they deserve compensation for that.

The real problem lies in the resolution passed by the student governments. It is full of generalities. Nowhere in the bill does it say the number of students who have permits for these lots, nor is there a recommendation stating how much fees should be reduced.

RHA has done its research into which lots are affected on game days and other factors, but there is still work to be done.

There is no way this legislation is ready to go to administration officials yet. When Director of Parking and Transportation Services Jim Joy met with RHA, he essentially laughed at its proposal. He made the point students are inconvenienced every day for one thing or another.

RHA needs to show exactly how many students are being inconvenienced and set a monetary value for that inconvenience. Until that happens, it is essentially submitting a wish list to the administration.

It is hard enough to get the administration to listen to students and enact policies to benefit us. When student governments are sending vague proposals to people, such as Joy and Vice Chancellor Student of Affairs Cathy Scroggs, they need to have a fully formulated plan. Administration will not take them seriously without it. Even if they have a plan, it is still up in the air whether the administration will actually listen.

RHA has a great start on this. Without additional research and logistics, though, nothing will get done. They should look up some more facts and figures and formulate a more specific proposal. Once that happens, RHA has the potential for real change to benefit a large number of students.

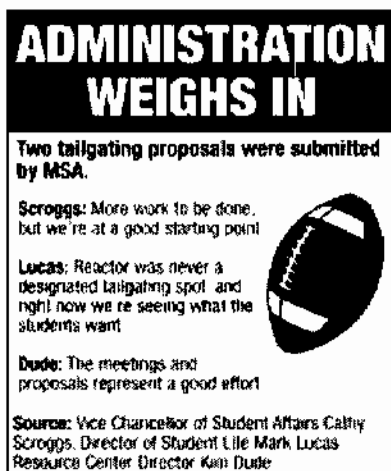
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## MSA proposes new student tailgating tradition

*No decisions will be made this season.*

By Megan Pearl

Published Oct. 20, 2009



Katie Prince/Graphic Designer

Another meeting between student representatives and the MU administration looking for student tailgating solutions happened Monday.

They discussed the previously submitted proposals, looked for ways to improve upon the plans and ultimately concluded nothing will be done this season for student tailgating, Missouri Students Association President Jordan Paul said.

The proposals from Paul and Student Communications Director Tim Noce, who is running unopposed for MSA president, focused on making tailgating a campus tradition like that of The Grove at the University of Mississippi. They suggested Carnahan Quadrangle as the location for the new tailgating spot.

"Using the Carnahan Quadrangle is still an option, but we're more hesitant to go down that path because upkeep is so costly," Paul said.

The general upkeep of Carnahan Quadrangle refers to the grass and soil of the area. According to the proposals, The Grove, which has a large grassy area similar to Carnahan Quadrangle, employs a four-season maintenance program. They also distribute and collect trashcans across the area on game days.

Four-season maintenance programs consist of a different maintenance program for each season.

Paul said the administration suggested the possibility of closing Rollins Street from the business building to the student center, but this idea could have its faults as well because of local laws concerning open containers and closing streets. Overall, Paul said everyone involved was committed to a solution.

"Jordan's proposal was a good starting point for us," Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Cathy Scroggs said. "There is more work to be done on implementing a student tailgate area, but I felt like today we had a great beginning."

All of the ideas involve student groups purchasing or renting tents from the university and lining up in the designated area for tailgating.

"The university is not looking for anything," Director of Student Life Mark Lucas said. "Reactor wasn't provided by the campus. It was taken away because students were being irresponsible, but it was never given to the students."

For that reason, Reactor Field and these proposals are entirely different. Reactor Field was never an official part of tailgating or MU, and the proposals hope to make tailgating a tradition among football fans.

Lucas said the administration has no requirements or standards for the campus tailgating because it has never happened before. He said they are waiting to see what the students want.

"We wouldn't want to have a bad event," Paul said.

Another meeting to further discuss possible issues with the proposals will be held next month.

"I think it's way too early to say the proposals are going to work," Wellness Resource Center Director Kim Dude said. "I think it's a very nice collaborative effort though."