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SEMO Raises Room, Board Rates

MARCH 28TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

SEMO Raises Room, Board Rates

CAPE GIRARDEAU – The Southeast Missouri State University Board of Regents recently approved new room and board rates and a \$22.64 million Residence Life budget for fiscal 2013.

Under the approved plan, average room rates will increase 2.43 percent, while board rates will rise an average of 4.96 percent for fiscal 2013. This will bring the average combined room and board rate increase to 3.32 percent for the 2012-2013 academic year, according to Dr. Dennis Holt, vice president for enrollment management and student success.

New Residence Hall Room Rates

Based on the new rates, annual residence hall fees will be:

- \$3,800 for Dearmont;
- \$4,100 for Towers South and East;
- \$4,250 for Cheney;
- \$4,950 for Group Housing;
- \$5,750 for Myers;
- \$5,850 for Towers North and West; and
- \$5,850 for Candlewood Suites and Vandiver, Henderson and Merick halls.

These figures reflect the cost to continue, including additional costs for maintenance and repair. Private room rates continue to be 1.5 times the rate of a double room, Holt said.

Board Rates

Holt says the average board rate change of 4.96 percent is consistent with the University's dining contract with Chartwells, and reflects actual and anticipated inflation in food prices for 2012-2013 and an increase in the value exchange requested by students.

Under the standard board rate schedule, the most popular plan – 15 meals per week plus \$140 in flex dollars – will cost students \$2,480 annually. The 19-meal plan with \$116 in flex dollars is \$2,690 annually. The 10-meal plan plus \$160 in flex dollars is \$2,230. The five-meal plan plus \$270 in flex dollars is \$1,910.

The flex dollars reflected in the board rates are cash stored electronically on students’ ID cards as part of their meal plan. They can be used at most campus dining locations to buy additional meals, food items, snacks and beverages.

With the approved room and board rate increase, a student living in Towers South/East with a 15-meal plan will pay \$6,580, up from \$6,360 last year.

Non-Traditional Housing Rates

In other action, the Board approved a 3 percent increase for non-traditional housing at 401 and 505 Washington Street. The Washington Street Apartments consist of 19 units and vary in number of bedrooms, size of rooms and amenities. Monthly rates for the 2012-2013 academic year will range from \$391.30 for a one-bedroom efficiency at 505 Washington Street to \$529.41 for a two-bedroom apartment with a balcony at 401 Washington Street.

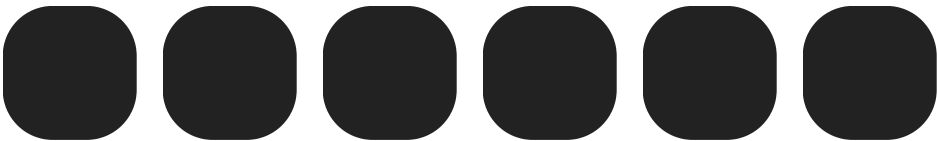
Residence Life Budget and Capital Improvement PlanThe \$22.64 million Residence Life budget approved by the Regents is up from a \$20.98 million budget under which Residence Life is operating in fiscal 2012. Holt says the difference reflects increased contributions to reserves and facilities renewal.

He says the Capital Improvements Plan for Residence Life through fiscal 2013 is currently being reviewed, and will be revised and submitted to the Board for approval in the fall when actual costs for fiscal 2013 projects are known.

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ESPN's Cohn To Speak At Three Rivers

MARCH 24TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

ESPN's Cohn To Speak At Three Rivers

POPLAR BLUFF - Linda Cohn, longtime anchor for ESPN's "SportsCenter," will deliver the commencement address at the 2012 graduation ceremonies for Three Rivers College. The college made the announcement concerning the May 20 ceremony this week.

"I want the college and its students to be affiliated with impactful personalities," said college president Dr. Devin Stephenson. "I look for a person who can inspire and motivate our graduates. Linda tells people that you can get to where you want to be if you are willing to push obstacles and hurdle boundaries, and I think our students will relate well to that."

Commencement will be held at 4 p.m., Sunday, May 20, as a free event open to the community. This is a change from the originally scheduled date of Friday, May 18.

"With that quality education, Three Rivers graduates are already going places," Cohn stated. "If I can help be their GPS, well, that's a bonus. My message is simple: Go after your dreams because they can happen. I'm an example of that. Combining your passion with effort puts yourself in position to get what you want out of life, in your career and personally."

As one of the first full-time female sports anchors, Cohn is recognized for her 20-year career with ESPN, and has appeared regularly on the show "SportsCenter" since 1992. She is considered a pioneer among professional women sportscasters in America.

Cohn is also the author of "Cohn-Head," her memoir published in 2008. The popular book details Cohn's struggle to "break into the boys' club" of national sportscasting. As a public speaker, Cohn has toured the country and spoken at numerous colleges and universities, including Northeastern University in Boston, the University of Connecticut, the University of Oklahoma and more.

"This will be an event to not only honor our graduates, but to thank our community and welcome everyone to come hear Linda's empowering message," said Stephenson. "We want to pack the Black River Coliseum. Linda is inspirational because of her commitment to family, to excellence, and to making a difference in the lives of others."

December 2011 and May 2012 graduates wishing to participate in this year's commencement exercises must apply for graduation either in the Enrollment Services Office or online at trcc.edu/academics/graduation.

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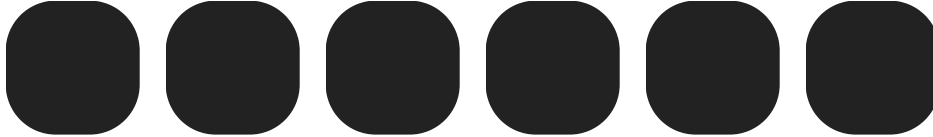
Elks Honor Advance Students

MARCH 17TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Elks Honor Advance Students

Larry White, Dexter Elks Lodge member, presents certificates and \$50 checks for Savings Bonds to Advance seniors Lindsey Sullinger, daughter of Bryan and Dana Sullinger, and Aaron Veale, son of Ronnie and Kim Veale. Lindsey and Aaron are competing with honorees from the other county schools for the Dexter Elks Students of the Year. Both students, along with their parents and counselor, Stacy Creech, will be honored with a banquet to be held at the Dexter Elks Lodge later this spring. The Elks Students of the Year will be announced at the spring banquet. (Photo submitted by Carol and Larry White - thanks for all the photos of Elks honorees this school year!)

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University Choir Hosts Spring Concert

MARCH 16TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

University Choir Hosts Spring Concert

CAPE GIRARDEAU - The Southeast Missouri State University Choir will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 29, in the Donald C. Bedell Performance Hall at Southeast's River Campus.

Dexter student Jessica Lesley is a member of the University Choir. Lesley is a 2011 graduate of Dexter High School and was a member of the Dexter Chamber Choir under the direction of MaryRuth Boone.

The one-hour concert program begins with works by two composers of the late Renaissance - Giovanni Gabrielli and Hans Leo Hassler. This year, 2012, marks the 400th anniversary of the death of Gabrielli and Hassler. The program continues with works by G. F. Handel, F. J. Haydn, Gabriel Fauré, Alexander Gretchaninoff, Joan Szymko, Charles Ingram, Lloyd Pfautsch, Peter Durow and Eric Whitacre. The University Choir will also perform arrangements of folksongs and spirituals by Joseph Wilcox Jenkins, Edwin Earle Ferguson, Roy Ringwald, Jester Hairston and Moses Hogan.

The performance on March 29 will follow the University Choir's "170 Miles to Memphis" spring tour March 22-24. The University Choir is Southeast's premier choir ensemble.

Tickets are on sale now. Tickets may be purchased by contacting the River Campus Box Office, located in the Cultural Arts Center, 518 S. Fountain St., weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., by calling (573) 651-2265, or online at RiverCampusEvents.com.

For more information about the University Choir, please contact Durow, the University Choir’s conductor and director of choral archives, at (573) 651-2342 or pdurow@semo.edu.

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FFA Students Qualify For Competition

MARCH 16TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

FFA Students Qualify For Competition

The young women and men in the Dexter Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter participated in an area competition and qualify for district competition.

The Dexter chapter competed in the Area 16 contests, held at Twin Rivers High School. Dexter had several members competing in events at the area competition:

- **Nicole Battles** placed third in Division One Public Speaking. Division one speaking is for 9th grade FFA members; they must write and present a 3-4 minute speech.
- **Chelsey Massey** placed first in Division Two Public Speaking. Division Two speaking is for 10th grade FFA members; they must write and present a 4-6 speech.
- **Christin Sitzes** placed 1st In Advanced Public Speaking. Advanced Speaking is for all FFA members. They must write and present a 6-8 minute speech.
- The FFA Knowledge Team placed 5th. Team members are **Kaitlin Eaton, Nicole Battles, Erika McCoy, and Ben Dachs**. They took a 100-question test over FFA history and current events.

All these competitors have qualified for District FFA competition on March 31 at Cape Girardeau. In addition, the Dexter FFA chapter scrapbook placed first and will be displayed at the Missouri State FFA convention.

Ronnie Shipman is the Dexter FFA Advisor.

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