About the MIAA

Ralph McFillen was appointed commissioner of the MIAA in January of 1997 and began his full-time position upon the retirement of the MIAA’s first commissioner, Ken B. Jones in June of that year.

He served as commissioner of the Division I Metro Conference from 1987-95 and commissioner of the Division II Gulf South Conference from 1978-84. McFillen also served as an assistant director of championships at the NCAA from 1972-84. He received a bachelor’s degree in history and physical education at Kansas State University in 1964 and earned a master’s degree in education from KSU in 1967.

MIAA Timelines


1924 – The MIAA reorganized to include only the five regional state colleges - Central, Northwest, Northeast, Southwest and Southeast. Sports include football, basketball and outdoor track and field.

1931 – Tennis added as a conference sport.

1932 – Indoor track added as an MIAA sport.

1935 – Missouri School of Mines (now Missouri-Rolla) joins the MIAA.

1937 – MIAA joins the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) College Division.

1958 – Cross country added as an MIAA sport.

1970 – Lincoln University joins the MIAA.

1980 – Missouri-St. Louis joins the MIAA.

1981 – Men’s soccer added as a conference sport. Ken B. Jones is appointed as MIAA’s first full-time commissioner. Southwest Missouri State leaves for NCAA Division I.

1982 – The MIAA begins sponsoring championships in women’s athletics.

1986 – Southwest Baptist joins the MIAA.

1989 – Missouri Southern State, Missouri Western State, Pittsburg State and Washburn join MIAA. Men’s soccer championship suspended.

1991 – Southeast Missouri State leaves for NCAA Division I. Emporia State joins the MIAA.

1992 – Conference name changed to Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

1994 – Men’s soccer championship play resumes. First Ken B. Jones Award for MIAA Student-Athlete of the Year given.

1996 – Missouri-St. Louis completes final season before moving to the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Northeast Missouri State changes its name to Truman State University.

1997 – Ken B. Jones retires on June 30 after 16 years of service as commissioner to the conference. MIAA chief executive officers select Ralph McFillen as his successor. New MIAA office established in Overland Park, Kan.


Ralph McFillen
Commissioner
1984-87. McFillen also served as an assistant director of championships at the NCAA from 1972-84. He received a bachelor’s degree in history and physical education at Kansas State University in 1964 and earned a master’s degree in education from KSU in 1967.

Matt Newbery is in his eighth year as the Director of Sports Information for the MIAA. He coordinates the league’s media relations and statistics and handles the designing and editing of the association’s publications.

Newbery also aids in the administration of MIAA championship events.

He was an assistant in the sports information office at Pittsburg State University where he graduated in 1990 with a bachelor’s degree in communication.

Matt Newbery
SID

2001-02 Institutional Representatives

John Rich, President, Emporia State University
Mark Mullin, Vice President, University of Missouri-Rolla
Kevin Schriver, Secretary/Treasurer, Southwest Baptist University

MIAA Members

Northwest Missouri State University
Washburn University (Kan.)
Emporia State University (Kan.)
Missouri Western State College
University of Missouri-Rolla
Central Missouri State University
Truman State University
Missouri Southern State College
Southwest Baptist University
Pittsburg State University (Kan.)

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The spirit of the Bulldog has been evident since the name was selected 87 years ago. It’s not unique though, as at least 16 NCAA schools have adopted the “Bulldog” as their official emblem because of the beast’s tenacity and ability to hold on and fight desperately to the end.
General Information

Truman Areas of Study

At Truman, we take great pride in the quality of our academic programs. We challenge students to achieve in an environment that supports their growth.

The University is committed to excellent teaching, continuing assessment, and a climate that fosters innovation. Excellence is the standard throughout. For example, our General Honors Program recognizes extraordinary achievement, but all students are eligible to participate.

We have earned a national reputation for quality, accountability and affordability. That reputation encompasses generations of graduates and our current students. It will also assure that we continue to attract the best students in the future.

Specific academic programs, degrees offered and division heads include:

**Division of Business and Accountancy** B.A./B.S., M.A. (Accounting)-Dr. James Bailey Accounting, Business Administration

**Division of Education** M.A.E.-Dr. Sam Minner

Students complete a liberal arts degree program (B.A./B.S.) with a pre-education emphasis before applying for admission to the M.A.E. Emphasis options include Elementary, Middle School, Secondary and Special Education.

**Division of Fine Arts** B.A., B.F.A., B.M., M.A. (Music)-Mr. Bob Jones Art (Art History, Studio Art, Visual Communication), Theatre (Performance, Liberal Arts Concentration, General Concentration with emphasis groups), Music.

**Division of Human Potential and Performance** B.A./B.S., B.S.N., M.A. (Communication Disorders)

Exercise Science (including Pre-Medicine, -Occupational Therapy, -Physical Therapy, Exercise Physiology, Cardiac Rehabilitation/Wellness, Athletic Training, and Leisure Management), Health (including Pre-Medicine, Community Health, Public Health, Health Administration, and Worksite Health), Nursing, Communication Disorders.

**Division of Language and Literature** B.A./B.S., M.A. (English)-Dr. Heinz Woehlk Classics, Communication (Journalism, Communication Arts and Communication Sciences), English (including Pre-Law), French, German, Russian, Spanish.

**Division of Mathematics and Computer Science** B.A./B.S., M.A. (Mathematics)-Dr. Lanny Morley Computer Science, Mathematics.

**Division of Military Science** Lt. James W. Dirkse Students in the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) earn an officer's commission in the U.S. Army in conjunction with an academic degree.

**Division of Science** B.A./B.S., M.S. (Biological)-Dr. Scott Ellis Agricultural Science, Biology (including Pre-Medicine, -Medical Technology, Physical Therapy, -Dental, -Veterinary), Chemistry (including Pre-Medical, -Pharmacy), Physics (including Pre-Engineering)

**Division of Social Science** B.A./B.S., M.A. (History)-Dr. Seymour Patterson Economics, History (including Pre-Law), Justice Systems, Philosophy and Religion, Political Science (including Pre-Law), Psychology, Sociology/Anthropology.

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Gardner Track

The Kenneth L. Gardner Track, constructed in 1996, is the home of Bulldog track.

Truman conducted a campaign to raise more than $200,000 which the University matched for the completion of the state-of-the-art, all-weather track. Groundbreaking was held on April 12, 1996, with dedication held on Sept. 28. The men’s and women’s track teams ran the first lap on the eight lane track during the halftime of the Truman-Washburn football game that year. The facility served as host for the 1998 Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association outdoor track & field Championships.

The track is named in honor of the late Bulldog Kenneth Gardner. Gardner spent the majority of his life working with Truman athletics as a player, coach and athletics director. An all-America football player and track standout in the 1940’s, Gardner came back to Truman in 1951 to take the reigns of the track team. Over the next quarter-century, he served not only as the head track coach, but also assisted with football and basketball.

Gardner became athletics director in 1974 and spearheaded a period of growth for Truman athletics. During his tenure, Gardner doubled the number of intercollegiate sports at the University to 21, including the introduction of women’s sports in 1972.

A charter inductee of the Truman Athletics Hall of Fame in 1983, Gardner was also inducted into the Missouri Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1984. He died in 1992 at the age of 72.

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Athletics Staff Directory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director of Athletics</td>
<td>Jerry Wollmering</td>
<td>785-4235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Director of Athletics for Compliance</td>
<td>B.J. Purnoy</td>
<td>785-4340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Director of Athletics for Facilities</td>
<td>Kevin White</td>
<td>785-4167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Secretary-Peggy Clark</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Media Relations</td>
<td>Melissa Ware, Director</td>
<td>785-4276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SID FAX</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-7475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asst. Director of Media Relations</td>
<td>R. Below</td>
<td>785-7778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Football Coach/John Ware</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant FB Coach/Matt Copeland</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant FB Coach/Keith Matheny</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant FB Coach/Matt Nelson</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant FB Coach/Matt Steinberg</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Soccer Coach-All Bilbad</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Soccer Coach-Mike Cannon</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball Coach-Qi Wang</td>
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<td>785-4468</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Basketball Coach-Jack Schrader</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Basketball Coach/John Sloop</td>
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<td>785-4459</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Cross Country &amp; Track Coach-Ed Schneider</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Cross Country &amp; Track Coach-John Cochrane</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4341</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baseball Coach-Lawrence Scully</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-6003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball Coach-Kristi Bredbenner &amp; Missy Kane (Interim Coaches)</td>
<td>785-4343</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Golf Coach-Tom Drennan</td>
<td></td>
<td>665-5335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Golf Coach-Sam Lesseig</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-4090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming Coach-Seth Huston</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-7219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis Coach-Pete Kendall</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-7258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling Coach-Dave Schutter</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-7257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Trainer-Michelle Boyd</td>
<td></td>
<td>785-7362/4172</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>