

# Giving Back

VOL. 3, NO. 1

OFFICE OF MISSOURI GOVERNOR JAY NIXON

APRIL 2012

## Public service: Helping move Missouri forward

**T**HROUGHOUT Missouri, hundreds of dedicated men and women are helping move our state forward through their service on one of the more than 200 public boards and commissions in the Show-Me State.

Whether it's ensuring the proper licensure of health professionals, advocating for vulnerable children and seniors, or supporting a specific sector of the economy, you are continuing to make sure that the Show-Me State is a great place to live, work and do business.

The vital work you do is having a real impact on our economy as well, as we continue to see economic growth. Missouri's unemployment rate is now at its lowest point in three years, and groups like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are pointing to Missouri as a top state for business growth and expansion.

Engaging talented and experienced individuals in public service is a key part of our strategy to continue Missouri's economic turnaround and improve the quality of life for everyone.

“Thank you for all that you do to serve the people of this great state, and keep up the good work!”

>>> GOVERNOR JAY NIXON



Gov. and First Lady Georganne Nixon visit with new board and commission members at a reception at the Governor's Mansion.

## Training, reception a success

**O**N OCT. 13, 2011, the Governor's Office held its Boards and Commissions Training and Reception. Attendees heard presentations about Missouri ethics, the Sunshine Law, policy issue and the state budget. Following the training, attendees met with the Governor and enjoyed a reception at the Governor's Mansion.

### Boards and Commissions staff



**Deborah Price**  
Director



**Kimberly Gerlt**  
Acting deputy  
director



**Sapna Khatri**  
Spring intern

## Session is in

On Jan. 4, the 96th General Assembly convened for the 2012 regular legislative session. Individuals nominated during session must be confirmed by the Senate before they begin service on a board or commission.



FOR MEMBERS OF MISSOURI BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



**Congratulations to the 111 Missouri public servants** who the Governor appointed during the 2011 interim. Further congratulations to the 74 appointees who were required by law to be confirmed by the Senate during the first 30

days of the session. Your leadership and participation on these boards and commissions will allow state government to function more efficiently and fairly, and will have a significant and lasting impact. Thank you!

<b>Board of Accountancy</b>		<b>Bi-State Development Agency of MO-Illinois Metro District</b>		<b>Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board</b>		<b>Office of Child Advocate</b>		<b>Clay County Board of Election Commissioners</b>		<b>Clean Water Commission</b>	
											
<b>Ryan Cook</b> Clinton	<b>Robert Helm</b> Springfield	<b>Constance Gully</b> Normandy	<b>Christopher Maglio</b> Kirksville	<b>Kelly Schultz</b> Columbia	<b>Thelma Crawford</b> Kansas City	<b>John Cowherd</b> Mount Vernon	<b>Wallis Warren</b> Beaufort				
<b>Clean Water Commission</b>		<b>Community Service Commission</b>		<b>Conservation Commission</b>		<b>Citizens Advisory Committee on Corrections</b>					
											
<b>Dennis Wood</b> Kimberling City	<b>Linda Duffy</b> Columbia	<b>James T. Blair IV</b> St. Louis	<b>Stephanie Boykin-Person</b> St. Louis	<b>Jandra Carter</b> St. Thomas	<b>Charles Ellis</b> St. Louis	<b>Harry Hall</b> Moberly	<b>Dane Miller</b> Warrensburg				
<b>Citizens Advisory Committee on Corrections</b>		<b>Board of Cosmetology and Barber Examiners</b>		<b>Credit Union Commission</b>		<b>Crime Laboratory Review Commission</b>		<b>Development Finance Board</b>		<b>Committee of Dietitians</b>	
											
<b>Melvin Sanders</b> St. Louis	<b>Lynn Urban</b> Clinton	<b>Lori Glasscock</b> Jefferson City	<b>John Hanneke</b> St. Charles	<b>Richard Orr</b> Warrensburg	<b>Timothy Cisar</b> Lake Ozark	<b>Brad Gregory</b> Bolivar	<b>Le Greta Hudson</b> Columbia				
<b>Coordinating Board for Early Childhood</b>		<b>Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council</b>		<b>Fire Safety Education/Advisory Commission</b>				<b>Gaming Commission</b>		<b>Harris-Stowe State University</b>	
											
<b>Shirley Patterson</b> Columbia	<b>Judge Dale Youngs</b> Kansas City	<b>David Herman</b> Ballwin	<b>Timothy Dorsey</b> Dardenne Prairie	<b>Todd Gray</b> Fulton	<b>Michael Marlo</b> Wentzville	<b>Suzanne Bradley</b> St. Joseph	<b>Christine Chadwick</b> St. Louis				



<b>Coordinating Board for Higher Education</b>	<b>Housing Development Commission</b>	<b>Commission on Human Rights</b>	<b>Statewide Independent Living Council</b>	<b>Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity for Military Children</b>	<b>Jackson County Sports Complex Authority</b>	<b>Labor and Industrial Relations Commission</b>
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**Brian Fogle**  
Springfield



**David Cosgrove**  
Webster Groves



**Roger Worthington**  
Columbia



**Bernie Cooper**  
Hannibal



**Judene R. Blackburn**  
Waynesville



**Deron Cherry**  
Greenwood



**James Avery**  
St. Louis



**Curtis E. Chick**  
Jefferson City

<b>Mental Health Commission</b>	<b>Military Preparedness &amp; Enhancement Commission</b>	<b>Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan Board of Trustees</b>	<b>Higher Education Loan Authority</b>	<b>Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors</b>	<b>Missouri State University Board of Governors</b>
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**Stephen Roling**  
Kansas City



**William James Hill**  
Pleasant Hill



**Erin Burlison-Huss**  
O'Fallon



**Linda Luebbing**  
Jefferson City



**Melanie Rippetoe**  
St. Louis



**James Fleischaker**  
Joplin



**Charles Surface**  
Joplin



**Beverly Miller**  
Lebanon

<b>Missouri State University Board of Governors</b>	<b>MO HealthNet Oversight Commission</b>	<b>Board of Nursing Home Administrators</b>
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**Stephen Bough**  
Kansas City



**Peter Hofherr**  
St. James



**Stephen Hoven**  
St. Louis



**Margaret Benz**  
St. Louis



**Ann Harris**  
Jefferson City



**Michael Levitt**  
Kansas City



**C. Michael Roth**  
Pacific



**Janice Unger**  
Jackson

<b>Board of Optometry</b>	<b>Platte County Election Board</b>	<b>Task Force on Prematurity and Infant Mortality</b>
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**Carrie Hruza**  
St. Louis



**James Everett**  
Platte City



**Marvin Ferguson**  
Parkville



**Dr. Francis Session Cole**  
Clayton



**Christine Grace**  
Columbia



**Mary Grimes**  
St. Louis



**Ruth Hollenback**  
St. Louis



**Sue Kendig**  
Ballwin

# Getting involved

By Sapna Khatri, Boards intern

**G**OV. NIXON appointed Melanie Rippetoe to the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority this year. The board's mission is to eliminate barriers for students so they can access higher education.

Working alongside the board's mission, the board of directors establishes organizational ends, determines moral owners, creates governing policies, including executive limitations, and monitors compliance with same. Melanie has stepped into this board as an unbiased third party through her role as the public member.

## Unbiased and informed

"I am starting this position with very little knowledge about the board. But, I have spent considerable time preparing myself for my role on the board by reviewing board materials and meeting with staff. It is my hope that all the preparation helps me fulfill my role with an unbiased, yet informed perspective," says Melanie.

Currently working as a code enforcement officer in Maryland Heights, Melanie holds her degree from Saint Louis University in urban planning and development. She has also dabbled in a few city planning projects on the side. Applying for a position as the public member to the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority was a new step for Melanie.

"Much of my adult life has been consumed with working full time and going to school. Now that I

IN THE

## SPOTLIGHT

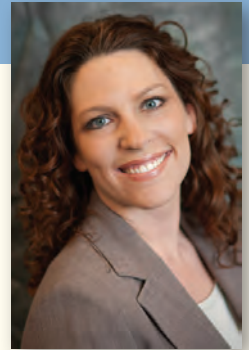
### Melanie Rippetoe

**Home:** St. Louis

**Board:** Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority

**Occupation:** Code enforcement officer for Maryland Heights

**Education:** MA in Urban Planning and Real Estate Development, St. Louis University



“Much of my adult life has been consumed with working full time and going to school. Now that I have graduated and have extra time, I would like to give back to the community.”

>>> MELANIE RIPPETOE

have graduated and have extra time, I would like to give back to the community. This wasn't an opportunity I wanted to miss," she says.

## Working to become an authority

Although this is unknown territory for her, Melanie has been doing her research to prepare for the position. Her excitement has led her to countless hours of studying to gain more information regarding the board as well as her role as a public member.

"I have a limited perspective on what to expect since I haven't served yet. I am sure that there will be

obstacles, but so far it's been a great experience and MOHELA is a great organization.

"Everyone seems to love working there and they enjoy what they do. Their enthusiasm excites me and I am eager to work with everyone," says Melanie.

Facing the door of a new challenge, Melanie views her position on the board, as well as the experience awaiting her, as an opportunity toward advancement. She is looking forward to serving as a member of the MOHELA to help provide students with more accessibility to what has been a large part of her life: a higher education.

# Staying involved

By Sapna Khatri, Boards intern

**G**OV. NIXON this year reappointed Russ Unger to the Missouri Community Service Commission, which works to connect Missourians of all ages and backgrounds to improve unmet community needs through direct and tangible service.

Housed in the Department of Economic Development, the MCSC funds AmeriCorps state programs in Missouri. Like a domestic version of the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps serves communities through volunteer work and other service. Striving to make service and volunteerism a common expectation of all Missourians, with a focus on youth, Russ returns to the board with innovative ideas.

## Community service

Reappointed as the representative of labor organizations, Unger brings with him 30-plus years of experience in the sheet-metal trade. He has been the apprenticeship coordinator for an apprenticeship training center, while serving as an instructor for 12 years. Through the years, Russ has laced community service into his daily roles.

“Community service is really important to me and we try to instill its value into our apprentices,” says Russ.

MCSC works to provide residents of Columbia and throughout Missouri with ample opportunity to get involved and give back to the community. Funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service,

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT Russ Unger



Russ Unger and daughter Jordan and wife Judy meet with Gov. and First Lady Nixon.

“One of the things I really enjoy is visiting the AmeriCorps programs across the state. ... You don't realize the need in the communities and how much the AmeriCorps members are doing until you go out and see them working.”

>>> RUSS UNGER

**Home:** Columbia

**Board:** Missouri Community Service Commission

**Occupation:** Apprenticeship coordinator for the sheet metal workers local 36 training center.

**Training:** Apprentice training in 1985, National Labor College in labor studies in 2000.

MCSC enables establishment of AmeriCorps programs by awarding monetary grants and providing technical assistance and support.

“One of the things I really enjoy is visiting the AmeriCorps programs across the state. Lately I have been visiting the programs in central Missouri and Columbia,” Russ says. “You don't realize the need in the communities and how much the AmeriCorps members are doing until you go out and see them working.”

## Thousands served

Over 2,700 AmeriCorps members have served Missourians since 2003, providing needed assistance to thousands, including disaster relief, health care, housing rehabilitation, public safety, tutoring and youth mentoring. Russ continually works for the promotion of AmeriCorps by equipping their programs with necessary resources.

“Each year we review new and existing AmeriCorps programs for funding. Our budget has decreased and we are limited on how many programs we can fund. It is hard to say ‘no’ to a program and not fund it when you know the AmeriCorps members will be helping people in their community,” he says.

Having fulfilled his duties as a labor representative for the Missouri Community Service Commission in the past, Russ returns with the same experience, dedication and passion for service. Carrying the vision of the commission in mind, he hopes to strengthen the spirit of volunteerism and service throughout the state.



**2010 LAW PROVIDES INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS**

## New board oversees licensing, regulation of behavior analysts

**H**OUSE BILL 1311, signed into law by Gov. Jay Nixon on June 10, 2010, was a monumental bill for families touched by autism. The new law provides for coverage of the diagnosis and treatment of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), as well as other populations.

HB1311 established licensure for individuals who provide these vital treatments and therapies, which have shown to make a major and lasting difference in the lives of children with ASD.

Recognizing the urgency and importance of HB1311, the State Committee of Psychologists formed a subcommittee to begin working on a draft to implement the licensure component of the bill. The subcommittee included members of the Committee of Psychologists and department and division representatives.

The subcommittee met four times between August and October 2010 to promulgate rules relating to licensing and regulation of behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts.

Due to the commitment

### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

#### Behavior Analyst Advisory Board



**Thomas Davis**  
PE, Public  
Member  
Kansas City



**Karen Greiner**  
BS, BCaBA  
St. Louis



**Jennifer Kirby**  
MS, BCBA  
Joplin



**Jessa Love**  
PhD, BCBA  
Hallsville



**Teresa Rodgers**  
PhD, BCBA  
Jefferson City



**Todd Streff**  
MS, BCBA  
St. Charles

#### Board meetings, activities

Members of the Behavior Analyst Advisory Board were appointed and confirmed by Feb. 16, 2011. Since then, they have met seven times to review applications for licensure, complaints and legislation affecting licensure.

#### Learn more about the advisory board

[gov.mo.gov/boards/show/BEHAVIORADV](http://gov.mo.gov/boards/show/BEHAVIORADV)

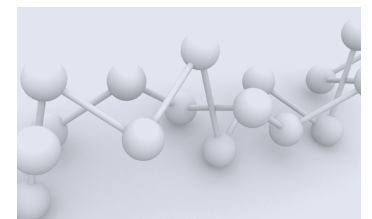


of the subcommittee and the Committee of Psychologists, rules were filed on Nov. 30 to allow the licensing of BAs and aBAs – to begin on Dec. 10, 2010 – prior to the effective date of the insurance mandate, which was Jan. 1, 2011.

Within six months of being signed into law, the first behavior analyst was licensed in the state on Dec. 20, 2010.

#### Missouri leading U.S. in licensure, regulation

Missouri was one of the first states in the nation to require and implement licensure of BAs and aBAs and Missouri is looked to nationally for the work that has been done with licensure and regulation.



**Get more information about autism resources and HB 1311**

[insurance.mo.gov/consumers/autismFAQ](http://insurance.mo.gov/consumers/autismFAQ)



Boards and Commissions will hold its next training and reception soon.

# Congratulations to appointees

<b>Task Force on Prematurity and Infant Mortality</b>	<b>Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children</b>					<b>Board of Private Investigators &amp; Private Fire Investigator Examiners</b>	
							
<b>Melinda Ohlemiller</b> St. Louis	<b>Dr. James Anderst</b> Kansas City	<b>Jennifer Dills</b> Columbia	<b>Jill Mueth</b> Sunset Hills	<b>Joy Oesterly</b> California	<b>Ellen Teller</b> Wildwood	<b>Timothy Cudd</b> St. Charles	<b>Charles Giessing</b> St. Louis
<b>Quality Home Care Council</b>		<b>Real Estate Appraisers Commission</b>	<b>Regional Convention &amp; Sports Complex Authority</b>	<b>Rehabilitation Advisory Council for the Blind</b>			
							
<b>Jennifer Gundy Walker</b>	<b>Julie Molendorp Belton</b>	<b>James Shrewsbury</b> St. Louis	<b>Donna Borgmeyer</b> Jefferson City	<b>Brady Clevenger</b> Republic	<b>Gene Fleeman</b> Dixon	<b>Rita Galbraith</b> Webb City	<b>Nia Ray</b> Jefferson City
<b>Rehabilitation Advisory Council for the Blind</b>	<b>Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board</b>	<b>Southeast Missouri State University Board of Regents</b>		<b>State Employees Retirement System Trustees Bd.</b>	<b>State Fair Commission</b>		
							
<b>Sheila Wright</b> Kansas City	<b>Megan Bittle</b> St. Louis	<b>William Jenks</b> Rolla	<b>Thomas Meyer</b> Cape Girardeau	<b>Kendra Neely-Martin</b> St. Louis	<b>Antwaun Smith</b> Kansas City	<b>Sherry Jones</b> Dawn	<b>Kevin Roberts</b> Hillsboro
<b>APPOINTEES NOT PICTURED</b>		<b>Missouri Technology Corp.</b>		<b>Truman State University Board of Governors</b>	<b>University of Central MO Bd. of Governors</b>	<b>University of Missouri Board of Curators</b>	
<b>Advisory Committee for 911 Service Oversight</b> <b>Debra Stenger</b> , St. Paul		 					
<b>Assistive Technology Advisory Council</b> <b>Mervin Blunt</b> , Columbia		<b>Beth Canuteson</b> Liberty	<b>David Kerr</b> Jefferson City	<b>Michael Bushor</b> Lee's Summit	<b>Dr. Gus Wetzel</b> St. Louis	<b>Pam Henrickson</b> Jefferson City	<b>Amy Johnson</b> Kansas City
<b>Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board</b> <b>Joyce Massey</b> , Lebanon		<b>Medal of Valor Review Board</b> <b>John Britt</b> , Jefferson City		<b>Task Force on Prematurity and Infant Mortality</b> <b>James Seigfried</b> , Warrensburg		<b>Paul Ajuwon</b> , Springfield <b>Betty Farley</b> , Jefferson City <b>John Thompson</b> , Wildwood <b>Patty Yokum</b> , St. Louis	
<b>Credit Union Commission</b> <b>Susan Venable</b> , Kansas City		<b>Board of Nursing Home Administrators</b> <b>Donald Yost</b> , Moberly		<b>Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children</b> <b>Christopher Smith</b> , Springfield		<b>Rehabilitation Council</b> <b>Robert D. Qualls</b> , Springfield	
<b>Educational Commissions of the States</b> <b>Patrick Gadell</b> , Chesterfield		<b>Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors</b> <b>David Sigars</b> , Glendale		<b>Rehabilitation Advisory Council for the Blind</b>		<b>Residential Mortgage Board</b> <b>Mark Gorman</b> , St. Louis	
<b>Health Facilities Review Committee</b> <b>Marsha Campbell</b> , Kansas City							




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mo.gov

Giving Back 

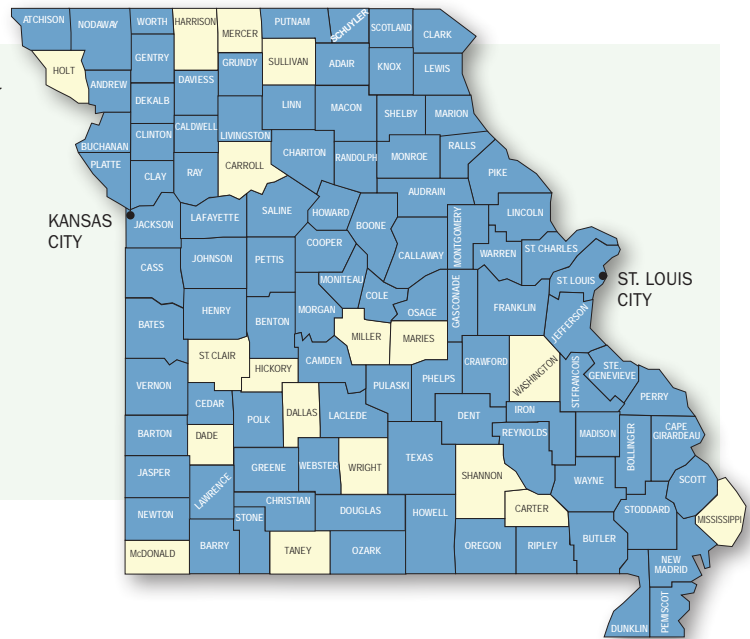
APRIL 2012

## Appointments by county

 Counties with residents appointed to judicial, county, board and commission positions

### Demographics

Since taking office, Gov. Nixon has made 783 board and commission appointments. The breakdown:  
 43% are women.  
 13% are African-American.



## As always, we need your help

Gov. Nixon is always looking for qualified, energetic applicants to serve on Missouri's 200-plus boards and commissions. Please spread the word. We would greatly appreciate it if you would encourage your colleagues and friends to review the vacancies and complete an application found at [governor.mo.gov/boards](http://governor.mo.gov/boards).



Giving Back is published quarterly by the Office of Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon for members of Missouri's boards and commissions.

If you have suggestions for the newsletter, please contact Deborah Price, director of Boards and Commissions:

[Deborah.Price@mo.gov](mailto:Deborah.Price@mo.gov) 573-751-3222

[governor.mo.gov/boards](http://governor.mo.gov/boards)