The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Faculty Senate/University Assembly Chairperson Paul Speck, who explained that, at the suggestion of a member of the Steering Committee, we are meeting jointly with Assembly business first in order to allow for the consolidation of reports and to provide an opportunity for Assembly members to leave after Assembly business has been completed.

Minutes

Minutes from the University Assembly’s September 14, 2004, meeting were approved as submitted.

Report from the Chairperson – Dr. Paul Speck

The Chair reported on one of the most important events that has taken place on this campus: a 4-hour retreat to discuss the future of UM-St. Louis with President Floyd and his staff, the Chancellor and his staff, and members of the Faculty Leadership Group (Senate/Assembly Steering Committee members, St. Louis Intercampus Faculty Council members, and the chairman of the Budget and Planning Committee). Several meetings to prepare for the retreat were held at the Chancellor’s Residence. Chancellor George, Provost Cope, Chair Speck, and others spoke. The Chair took a macro perspective in terms of comparator urban markets. Both micro and macro views were covered by other speakers.

The Senate was asked to put forward three names for faculty seats on the search committee for the Vice Chancellor of Development position. Drs. Susan Feigenbaum, Bernard Feldman, and Stephen Moehrle were recommended.

Two names were put forward for the Committee on Economic Development, which oversees matters concerning the Research Park: Drs. E. Terrence Jones and Teresa Thiel.

It was reported that the Evening College Committee, chaired by Dean Bliss, is still at the information-gathering stage.

Dr. Jim Tom was introduced to the membership. Dr. Tom replaces Dr. Jerry Siegel as Associate Vice Chancellor for Information Technology Services.

Report from the Chancellor – Chancellor Thomas George
UMSL College of Nursing

The Chancellor reported that our Barnes College of Nursing soon will come to be known as the UMSL College of Nursing. This name change results from a meeting between Dean Travis, Chancellor George, and the head of Barnes Jewish Hospital, whose nursing school, beginning in 2005, will take the name Barnes Jewish School of Nursing. UM Legal Counsel has confirmed their right to take back the Barnes name after it has been used by us for ten years. We are working to see if we can get some financial recompense for renaming our College. Dr. Feigenbaum inquired how this will impact our usual custom of sending nurses to Barnes for their rotations. Chancellor George commented that this may provide us with an opportunity to get friendlier with other hospital systems that might become our partners. The Chancellor reported that Jewish is aspiring to be in the top ten nursing schools in the country. The Chair asked how UMSL will be affected as they expand Barnes Jewish and ratchet it up. The Chancellor agreed that this is a concern, but he noted that compared to other nursing colleges, we tend to be more clinical. Dean Travis would like us to move toward a more research-oriented approach, and there is a question about where we will find doctoral-level faculty in the profession. Chancellor George noted, however, that there are 3-4 applicants for each open position here. BJC will put millions into the Barnes Jewish operation, and they will launch an aggressive fundraising effort. They will be able to offer more attractive salaries than we can hope to. It will be a challenge for us, said the Chancellor. Director of UMSL Communications Robert Samples stressed that the Barnes name being taken away is not a reflection of poor program quality. The statistics proving our success should lead the announcement, suggested Dr. Lawrence Barton. There will be a joint press release, the Chancellor noted. Dr. Joseph Martinich felt that while the joint announcement could come out the same day at the same time, our version should include facts that are complimentary to our program. Dr. Vicki Sauter respectfully disagreed with her spouse (causing an amused reaction from the floor), suggesting that at some future time after the coordinated joint release, UMSL put forward its statistics so that they are not lost in the Barnes Jewish story. Senate/Assembly Secretary Carol Peck observed that opportunities will be numerous, due to the nursing shortage. Mr. Samples agreed to try to stress the quality issue and the huge difference between institutions. Nursing students who come here are at a multi-purpose institution with many more options and a strong general education program. Honors College Dean Robert Bliss reported that an honors program in Nursing will be announced in spring. Chair Speck commented that the emphasis is less on what is said than what is heard at a time when we are about to start a capital campaign. Dr. Gail Rea, a faculty senator from Nursing, said we have nothing to worry about concerning quality; our only fear is enrollment.

Election Results

Turning to election results, Chancellor George reflected that we have a Republican Governor and a Republican Legislature for the first time since the 1920s. Republicans won 11 out of 17 seats in the election. They have a 23-11 lead in the Senate. Out of that, UM has 18 alums, and 2 of them are from UM-St. Louis. In the House, Republicans picked up 8 seats, so they now have a 97-66 majority. Thirty-eight of them are UM
alums, and 7 are from UM-St. Louis. We have a lot of friends now and are working to cultivate more friendships among the Republicans, the Chancellor remarked.

The Chair asked how soon we can expect new appointments to the Board of Curators. Chancellor George said there is a lot of jockeying going on now. He thinks perhaps we will have those appointments by late-winter or early-spring.

In response to a question from the floor, it was announced that all proposed amendments in our campus referendum passed. Dr. Van Reidhead led attendees in recognizing the hard work of Dr. Timothy Farmer, chairperson of the Committee on Bylaws and Rules.

The Chair directed Senate and Assembly members to the campus governance website for a detailed report presented at the Fall Faculty Meeting by Provost Cope.

**Civility Pledge**

A draft of the proposed pledge was included with the agenda. It provoked a number of criticisms and questions, among them a suggestion by Dr. William Long that the final sentence be omitted; a recommendation by Daniel Hollander that reference to students in the last sentence be retained; a question by Dr. Alan Heisel as to the definition of “promptly;” a question by Dr. Eric Wiland if approving the pledge sets a precedent and his agreement with Dr. Long. Furthermore, Dr. Wiland commented on the difference between meeting with a chair or dean and with a student. “In all situations” appears to present a problem. Dr. Vicki Sauter inquired about the difference between a pledge and a guideline, and Dr. Wiland suggested that a pledge is a promise. Mr. Christopher Blanke asked if the pledge is intended to rectify a problem. To this, Dr. Helene Sherman replied that it represents an attempt to say that we want to put our best foot forward. She suggested that the pledge be printed somewhere, and Dr. Joseph Martinich agreed, proposing to include it in an employee manual so it becomes a part of the employee training process. Dr. Carol Peck pointed out the ambiguity of the pledge in situations where you have two or three students and a guest. Different situations require different rules, she noted. Dr. Van Reidhead agreed with Dr. Martinich that the pledge reflects a spirit of compliance, not a dogged rule. Dr. Jeanne Morgan Zarucchi, who opposed the pledge, asserted that students should have the same responsibility to be civil to others. Finally, Chancellor George, who was in agreement with Dr. Zarucchi on the inclusion of students, withdrew the proposed pledge until it is taken up by both the Student Government Association and the Staff Association. He remarked that there were enough instances which occurred over the past year that some sort of statement seemed to be called for. The Chancellor concurred with Dr. Martinich that it belongs in a training manual.

**Report from the Student Government Association** – Mr. Brian Rails for Mr. Scott Bopp (who was unable to attend)
**Wellness Center Proposal**

The Wellness Center being proposed by some students came under discussion. Chair Speck indicated that the cost is in the $22 million range, prompting Dr. Lawrence Barton to advise careful consideration before approving add-ons to student fees because of its potential impact on recruitment and retention. Mr. Rails suggested the Wellness Center would serve as an aid, not a hindrance, to recruitment. The Brailsford & Dunlavey summary of plans for the Center was brought to the attention of the Steering Committee, and the document is now on the web. Other than that, it hasn’t received broad publicity on the campus.

Dr. Joseph Martinich reported that he has read the document and feels it will take several months to give it the serious consideration it deserves. He suggested that we investigate scientifically the impact of this fee increase on students. Dr. Martinich found the building cost to be far off the mark and no provision made for replacement costs. Dr. Vandenberg questioned the validity of a survey of students that didn’t provide space to note opposition to the plan. He pointed out that the students voting on the proposal now will not be those who will pay for it in the future. Noting that the campus is taking a large share of its equity adjustment in scholarships, Dr. Susan Feigenbaum added her concern about the fee increase resulting from approval of the Wellness Center. Mr. Garavaglia assured attendees that equipment replacement will not be a problem.

The Chair decided to refer the topic to the committees on Recruitment, Admissions, Retention, and Student Financial Aid; Budget and Planning; Physical Facilities, Space, and General Services; and Student Affairs.

**Report from the Administrator Evaluation Committee** – Dr. Helene Sherman

Dr. Sherman reported that the Committee is starting fresh this year in determining its purpose and how best to handle the evaluations. Committee members have met with the Chancellor already and soon will meet with the Provost. Dr. Sherman said she is uncertain who will be evaluated this year. When they are ready, they will come back to the Assembly with their plans.

Dr. Long suggested viewing the Committee’s charge historically. Formerly, he said, it was a committee of the Faculty Council.

**Report from the Budget and Planning Committee** – Dr. E. Terrence Jones

(see attached)

Committee Chairperson E. Terrence Jones responded to criticism from Dr. Susan Feigenbaum that we will have no interest in the firms housed at CORTEX by noting interest on the part of Dr. Frank Moss and possibly others. Dr. Feigenbaum complained that we contributed $4 million solely to be a good citizen but can expect to receive no
interest on this money. Dr. Jones reported that at some time, perhaps 20 years from now, we will liquidate the entire enterprise.

Chair Speck explained that CORTEX is not a research or a teaching investment. It is, he said, an academic growth venture. It is of interest to all partner universities because it is “the only game in town” making an investment in the larger research community. The Committee felt that the decision to participate should be left to the Chancellor.

Dr. Feigenbaum preferred investing in a location in North County, near the campus. Dr. Lawrence Barton commented that there is no going back now. It’s a worthwhile project, and we are committed, he said. Dr. Teresa Thiel called the presentation before the Committee “very persuasive,” but said she would have preferred to have heard it prior to the decision to participate being made.

**Report from the Committee on Bylaws and Rules** – Dr. Timothy Farmer

(see attached)

**Minutes**

Minutes from the Faculty Senate meeting of October 12, 2004, were approved as submitted.

**Report from the Committee on Curriculum and Instruction** – Dr. Fred Willman

All proposals requiring action by the Senate were approved, except for changes in degree requirements for the B.A./B.S. in Sociology. This proposal was withdrawn due to a missing course proposal. Course additions/changes/deletions were called to the Senate’s attention by the committee chair.

The proposal to create a new curricular designation for Media Studies prompted a question from Dr. Susan Feigenbaum as to how new departments are created. Dean Hylton said it requires approval from the President and the Chancellor. Dr. Feigenbaum followed up by asking if, when new units are formed, the Senate should be apprised of what new resources are necessary. Dr. Martinich commented that the previous Chancellor created this department on her own.

**Other Business**

Following a brief discussion it was decided that a parking lot plan, as well as plans for the Wellness Center, should be disseminated to the entire campus community via e-mail.
Completing the business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Peck
Senate/Assembly Secretary

(minutes written by Ms. Joan M. Arban,
Executive Assistant to the Chair)