On November 29, 2016, the members of the Faculty Senate attended a Special Senate meeting to meet UM System President-Elect Mun Choi. The meeting was held at 2:15 p.m. in 202 JCPenney.

Senate Chair Pamela Stuerke called the Senate meeting to order. She invited Chancellor George to introduce President-Elect Choi to the Senate. Chancellor George introduced Dr. Choi and explained that he has been meeting with various groups that day as he visits the UMSL campus for the first time. The Senate welcomed Dr. Choi with applause.

Dr. Choi asked each of the senators to introduce themselves by stating their name and department. Dr. Choi explained that he met with various groups and enjoyed the vibrant discussions he had throughout the day. He asked what UM System can do to improve the campus. He addressed some of the state’s budget concerns and how it affects higher education. Dr. Choi explained how he plans to be an advocate for higher education when he meets with the state legislators.

Dr. Choi stated that he will begin his new position on March 1, 2017. He asked the Senate for their advice as he begins his duties at UM System. He explained that his current job as Provost at the University of Connecticut has helped to prepare him for this new job. He asked what UM System can do to make each campus better. He discussed the following topics with the Senate:

- UMSL’s budget cuts from last year
- Opportunities for more collaboration between each of the campuses
- Sharing more information about research that is occurring at the other campuses
- Examining opportunities for Nursing and Chemistry Departments to collaborate with Mizzou’s School of Medicine
- Dr. Choi suggested 5-minute research faculty “salons” to share research and to find other faculty members who could collaborate
- Investigating the possibilities of using industry partners to supplement funding.
- Educating industries on the value of faculty expertise and outstanding students.
- Discussing the importance of clarity for tenure and promotion process. Establishing clear guidelines and performance ratings.

Senate Chair Stuerke thanked President Choi for taking the time to speak to the Senate.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Hall
Senate/Assembly Secretary

(Minutes written by Loyola Harvey, Faculty Senate/University Assembly Office)