Greetings from the President …

Dear Fellow Retirees,

By the time you receive this newsletter, Spring should be coming to Missouri and baseball and blooms will be major discussion items. Representatives of the Retirees Associations from the four UM campuses will meet with the new UM System President Gary Forsee in Columbia on April 22. Forsee is somewhat new to academic administration having been recruited from the corporate sector. This will be a “getting to know you” session, hopefully assisted by former Interim President Gordon Lamb. The UM budget is in full production and although the early plans were encouraging (approximately 4% salary increase for active faculty and staff), there are difficult months ahead negotiating with the state legislature. At our last 4-campus meeting in Columbia in December with then Interim President Lamb, we agreed to request an adjustment to pensions in 2008, a move backed by the UM Benefits Committee.

On the local scene, our December luncheon was a great introduction to the holiday season. We had a good turnout. Chancellor Tom George not only presented an update on campus news, but provided delightful musical entertainment accompanying music student Brian Owens. Board member Fred Wilke discussed retiree benefits and the workings of the UM Benefits Committee, of which he is a member. Our Spring Luncheon will be on June 12 and, as usual, we will have elections (see article within). Please plan to attend and enjoy seeing friends, former colleagues, and the Touhill, since lunch will be served in the lobby.

While I am not a tax expert, if you haven’t reviewed the new Missouri Pension exemption from state taxes, request or download Form 1040P to see if you qualify for a reduction in your tax liability. That issue surfaced at our Board meeting in March as well as the formation of an ad hoc newsletter committee which will be chaired by board member Sharon Davis. Anyone wishing to help produce future newsletters, including online issues, should contact Sharon. Detailed minutes of the UMSL RA Board meetings can be found on the UMSL website.

Best wishes for the Spring holidays,
David Garin, President, UM-St. Louis Retirees Association

Meet the new University of Missouri President – Gary Forsee

Gary Forsee was appointed president of the four-campus University of Missouri on Dec. 20, 2007, with his presidency commencing on Feb. 18, 2008. He received a three-year appointment from the Board of Curators to lead Missouri’s premier public higher education institution.

Born in Kansas City, Mo., in 1950, Forsee received an engineering degree from the Missouri University of Science and Technology. He began his telecommunications career with Southwestern Bell in Kansas City in 1972. In addition to living and working in communities large and small throughout Missouri, a series of increasingly visible posts took him to Washington, D.C., New Jersey, Atlanta, Georgia and Brussels, Belgium.

Throughout his life, Forsee has been very involved in the broadest range of community and philanthropic activities. As a University of Missouri-Rolla student, he was on the staff of the school paper and served as president of the Kappa Sigma fraternity. In Charleston, Mo., he was a Scoutmaster and chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. He has since led several major campaigns for the United Way, the March of Dimes and many other charitable and community organizations.

His first staff decision as president of the University of Missouri system is a winner. He asked Gordon Lamb, who’s been serving as interim president, to stay on for at least a year as executive vice president. Lamb will serve as an adviser to Forsee and work on special projects.

Our Website: www.umsl.edu/services/ur/spevents/retire/index.htm. This page is accessed through the University Events webpage.
JOIN THE LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, April 2, 2008 - Holocaust Museum

Noon – Meet for LUNCH at SWEET TOMATOES, 10401 Old Olive–just west of Lindbergh–offering a delicious buffet of salad, soups and entrees.

Lunch will be followed by a tour of the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center at 12 Millstone Campus Dr.

The entrance fee is $2.

A memorial to all of the oppressed Jews during the Holocaust, this museum offers guests a chance to reflect on and discover the reality of history. Six main exhibit areas walk guests through pre-Holocaust Europe to the rise of Nazism and the Holocaust and on to post-Holocaust times. Photographs, artifacts, and audiovisual presentations tell the story.

To learn more visit the web site at www.hmlc.org

Coordinators at David and Marcia Larsen. For reservations call 636-300-3101 or email larsen2486@sbcglobal.net

(Fall Lunch Bunch – tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright house in Kirkwood)

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Questions? Call University Events (314) 516-3442

APRIL

2 Lunch bunch. (see above)

21 11th Annual Spencer & Spencer Lecture, 7:30 p.m., Century Room, Millennium Student Center. "Improving U.S. Mathematics Education: Myths and Realities." Presented by Dr. Hyman Bass, professor of mathematics and mathematics education, University of Michigan.

23 Great Rivers Authors Series – author – Cal Ripkin, 7 p.m. St. Louis Public Library, 1301 Olive Street. Baseball’s all-time Iron Man talks about his new book, Get in the Game: 8 Elements of Perseverance That Make a Difference.

APRIL 30 Great Rivers Authors Series – author – Joanne Harris, 7 p.m. Ethical Society, 901 Clayton Road. Author of publishing sensation and Oscar-nominated film Chocolat, talks about the sequel The Girl With No Shadow.

MAY

10 & 11 SPRING COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES - All ceremonies are open to the public. No tickets required.

10 a.m. – College of Nursing, UMSL/WU joint Undergraduate Engineering Program, College of Fine Arts and Communication, School of Social Work, Bachelor of General Studies and Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies, Master’s of Gerontology, Master’s of Public Policy Administration

Speaker – Eleanor Sullivan

2 p.m. – College of Arts & Sciences

Speaker and Honorary degree recipient – Martin Duggan

6 p.m. – College of Optometry

(Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center)

Speaker – Dr. Linda Casser

11 Commencement Ceremonies, Mark Twain Building

2 p.m. – College of Education

Speaker – Charles Granger

Honorary degree recipient – Mildred Winter

6 p.m. – College of Business Administration

Speaker – to be announced

ELECTION FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

The following slate will be presented at the Spring Luncheon on June 12

President: David Garin

Vice President: Dave Ganz

Board members (3 need to be elected): Larry Friedman, Sandy MacLean and Norman Seay.

Additional nominations will be solicited “from the floor” at the luncheon.

If you, or someone you know, would like to be considered please contact me or be prepared to nominate them at the luncheon.

Shirley A. Martin

Chair, Nominating Committee

Reminder!

It’s time to pay your dues.

Lifetime dues – $100.00 (This makes it easy!)

Annual dues – $10.00

Make checks payable to: UM-St. Louis Retirees Association

Send to: Sandy MacLean, 202 N. Brentwood Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63105-3909

Benefits include:

~ Campus parking sticker
~ 10 % discount at the UMSL Bookstore
~ 25 % discount on Touhill Performing Arts Center tickets

2007-2008 Officers

David Garin, President

(Department of Chemistry)

(314) 725-3053

David Ganz, Vice President

(College of Business Administration)

(314) 516-6131

Steven Spaner, Secretary

(College of Education)

(636) 433-2511

Sandy MacLean, Treasurer

(Office of Student Affairs)

(314) 725-8252

Members of the Board

Sharon Davis, (636) 240-8946

(College of Optometry)

Lawrence Friedman, (314) 725-8508

(Department of Biology and Evening College)

Shirley Martin, past president, (314) 678-6697

(College of Nursing)

Norman Seay, (314) 533-2635

(Office of Equal Opportunity)

Herman Smith, (314) 725-1907

(Department of Sociology)

Fred Wilke, (636) 625-8990

(Department of Mathematics and Computer Science)