Greetings from the President …

Dear Fellow Retirees,

After a long cold winter, it seems that spring is ready to bring that annual sense of renewal. This will be a difficult year financially for Missouri and therefore another challenging one for the University of Missouri. Our meeting with UM System President Gary Forsee on Nov 4 in Columbia provided some details of that challenge and a clear indication that every effort will be made to maintain the soundness of our pension plan and continuation of our health benefits. Also clear was that pension adjustments are not likely in the near future considering Missouri’s budget difficulties. We did push to have pension increases considered at the same time as faculty and staff raises, not as an afterthought. It is probably essential that each of the chancellors support this position. Currently, there is no potential for it in the budget. UMSL members in attendance were David Garin, Dave Ganz, Fred Wilke and John Perry. Our next meeting of all campus retiree association representatives with the president will not be in Columbia. Instead, we will use the new telepresence rooms on each of the four campuses. This will be our first test of this system. While saving some travel time, I will miss the opportunity for individual personal connections with representatives from other campuses and with President Forsee.

Our holiday luncheon in December included election of the nominating committee, chaired by Shirley Martin. The committee will produce a slate for election at the June 8th business meeting and luncheon, hosted again by Chancellor Tom George and Professor Barbara Harbach. At the meeting, there will be a call for additional nominations from the floor. Please consider running for an office.

Shortly after Chuck Korr was elected treasurer last year it became clear to him that his extensive travel schedule would prevent him from fulfilling the duties of office. I appointed Rick Blanton to replace Chuck for the first year of the two year term and he has done that splendidly. Our June election will include the remaining one year of that term for treasurer, and full two-year positions for three board members, president, and vice president.

At our November board meeting, we were asked to absorb some of the costs that had been graciously underwritten by the University Events office, including postage costs for the newsletters. In light of reduced university budgets, your board agreed. That adjustment prompted a board meeting in January where we discussed mechanisms to absorb the additional expenditures and/or trim costs. The additional postage costs are projected to cause our total annual expenses to exceed our traditional income, which is predominantly derived from member dues. An ad hoc committee was formed consisting of Dave Ganz, Rick Blanton, and Sandy MacLean to deal with our own fiscal problems. Their suggestions will be forthcoming. In addition, we welcome your comments and suggestions.

In response to his new constitutional charge, VP Dave Ganz will be sending out a membership recruitment letter, which encourages me to anticipate an increase in our ranks. Please try to attend our annual meeting/luncheon on June 8. A separate invitation will be sent to you.

Best wishes for a bountiful spring,

David Garin
President of the Board, UMSL Retirees Association
Ann Smith, professor of political science and public policy administration

Explore the history of St. Louis politics with the author of St. Louis Politics: The Triumph of Traditions and Holding Bureaucrats Accountable.

Volunteering 2.0 – Friday, April 9, 1-2 p.m. – Fee: $5

Candice Arrick, OASIS, Jaccie Juras, Missouri Botanical Garden, Elizabeth Pavloski, UMSL

Learn about new trends in volunteering. It can be a path to a new career, a way to use your skills to give back or a means of social engagement.

Crime and the American Dream - Wednesday, April 21, 1-2:30 p.m. – Fee: $5

Rick Rosenfeld, Curator's Professor in Criminology and Criminal Justice, UMSL

Co-author of Crime and the American Dream, Rosenfeld will discuss the book’s theory that America’s over-emphasis on the pursuit of materialistic gain contributes to the country’s high rates of violent crime.

To register for any of these classes or if you would like to be on the OASIS mailing list, call 314-539-4556.

 reminder

It’s time to pay your dues for 2010/2011:

- Lifetime dues – $100/Annual dues – $10

(please positively and buy a lifetime membership – then you don’t have to think about it again!)

Make your check payable to: UM-St. Louis Retirees Association

Send to: Rick Blanton, treasurer

7348 Country Club Drive

Saint Louis, MO 63121-2508

Benefits include:

- Campus parking sticker
- 10 percent discount at the UM-St. Louis Bookstore
- 25 percent discount on Touhill Performing Arts Center tickets
- Reduced rental rates at the Alumni Center... and even more

2009-2010 Officers


and Evening College, 314-725-8850

Computer Science, 636-696-4449

and Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, 636-696-4449

Sandy MacLean, Department of Optometry, 314-516-6131

*Tea Off*

Directory Information: We’re asking again

We are continuing to update the UMSL Retirees Association Directory (last published in 2006).

- Please print all information on the form.
- If husband and wife are or were, UMSL retirees, please complete a separate form for each.
- If you are a surviving spouse of a deceased UMSL retiree, please indicate retiree’s name on the “Name” line and your name on the spouse line and put an (x) in the box.

NOTE: If, for any reason, you do not want your personal information published in this directory, complete the form and print across the top, “NOT FOR DIRECTORY PUBLICATION.” Your information will not be published. It will only be used to send Retirees Association information (newsletters, invitations, etc).

UMSL retirees and their surviving spouses can be listed in the directory at no charge.

Name

Address __________________________

City, State, Zip ____________________

Telephone (_____) __________________ Fax (_____)

E-mail _______________________________________

Retired (___) Faculty (___) Staff

Spouse’s name __________________________

(____) I am the surviving spouse of a deceased retiree.

--- Mail the completed form to: Sharon Davis, #3 South Diame Drive, St. Peters, MO 63376 ---