

**Minutes of the UMSL Retirees Association
Holiday Luncheon and Special Meeting
December 4, 2012**

The holiday lunch was held at the Glen Echo Country Club on December 4th, 2012.

David Garin, President of the Board commented on the forthcoming Jubilee year celebration of the campus. He mentioned that the retirees had helped to create the traditions and contributed to the history of the campus. UM President Wolfe and his wife were invited to the luncheon. Garin read a gracious letter he received from President Wolfe who was unable to attend. Garin mentioned Wolfe's efforts to reach out to constituents and the fact that Wolfe scheduled three meetings with UM retiree association representatives during the year.

UMSL Chancellor Tom George gave an update on campus activities. He first mentioned the passing of former Chancellor Arnold Grobman. The academic departments and programs at UMSL are doing well. International business is in the top 20 (US News & World Report) and Criminal Justice is ranked 4th. Other programs are in the top 30 nationwide. There are now 84,000 alums and 62,000 of them reside in the St. Louis area. We had the largest incoming class this year. Enrollment remains the same because of retention issues. The average ACT score this year was 24, an UMSL record. The renovation of Benton/Stadler and a new building will require \$60M from UMSL. It will be paid at \$2M/year for 30 years. There is also a Great Streets initiative which will cost \$14M. We have completed the capital campaign at \$154M. Research funds this year were \$41M. There is a new presence with UMSL at Grand Center. Students voted for a new recreation center (\$36M). The Marguerite Ross Barnett Plaza is now complete. Athletics is doing super. We won more games than lost while in a top division 2 (GLVC). UMSL is in the middle of a strategic plan. The chancellor read a suggested strategy statement. The draft mentioned that by 2018 UMSL will have 18,000 enrollment, 13,000 of which will be degree seeking (currently there are 4,000 high school students taking advance placement courses). Another goal is to have the 6-year graduation rate reach 70%.

Fred Wilke, representative to the U-wide Retirement, Salary and Benefits Committee, gave an update. Fred also attended the 4-campus retiree associations meeting in Columbia in November. Fred said the UM President talked about the strategic plan. Melanie Berger has been given the task of Manager of Constituency Communications. She will start a new website and reach out to retirees for information.

UM finance guru Nikki Krawitz stated that COLAs will not occur in the near future. She also stated the retirement fund is fully funded.

Tom Richards, associate vice president for Finance, said that the UM System is taking a new look at investing for the university.

There should be a letter sent to retirees asking why they are opting out of the post-employment UM health care plan (only 58% of eligible retirees are in the plan). If one has 30 years of service, the plan is subsidized at 73% with lesser years still subsidized to some extent. Wilke asked for a show of hands as to how many people in the audience were in the plan and how many had 20 years or service and 30 years of service. Wilke said that he expected the university's contribution to retirement funds to increase.

Garin asked for comments and corrections to the draft minutes from the June 5, 2012 meeting. There were none.

Garin asked for volunteers for the Nominating Committee, which is chaired by Shirley Martin. Garin mentioned the book exchange and thanked Cindy Vantine for doing such a wonderful job in arranging the luncheon event. Garin announced the Dec 12 Chancellor's Holiday reception and the Staff Association Bazaar.

Kent Krober made some remarks regarding the lifetime gift annuity program.

Garin wished all 65 attendees a wonderful holiday and a safe trip home.

The event concluded at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted with gratitude to
UMSL-RA President David Garin
for filing these minutes in my absence from the
2012 Holiday Luncheon and Special Meeting

Steven D Spaner,
UMSL Retirees Association Secretary

December 2012 Treasurer's Report
December 6, 2012

<u>Item</u>	<u>+ / (-)</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance on June 6, 2012		\$4641.23
Deposit June 15, 2012	\$ 245.00	\$4886.23
Bought Envelopes, 6/19/12	(\$ 135.78)	\$4750.45
Bought Membership Cards 6/19/12	(\$ 44.00)	\$4706.45
Deposit August 15, 2012	\$ 42.00	\$4748.45
Winston Hsieh check, Sept 15, 2012	\$ 12.00	\$4760.45
Fall Newsletter check to Sharon Davis	(\$ 96.28)	\$4664.17
Holiday lunch Deposit	\$1410.00	\$6074.17
Holiday Lunch Invoice Glen Echo Paid	(\$1505.00)	\$4569.17
Balance on December 6, 2012		\$4569.17

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Blanton
UMSL Retirees Association Treasurer