The Annual UMSL Retirees Association (RA) Holiday Luncheon was held at the Glen Echo Country Club. RA president Dave Garin opened the Special Meeting portion of the event at 1:15 PM. Garin introduced Academic Affairs Vice Chancellor Glen Cope who was in attendance on behalf of UMSL Chancellor Thomas George. VC Cope provided a summary of news and updates on campus and system conditions and events. The report covered the items from the Chancellor’s latest presentation, 2011 State of the University Address, [http://www.umsl.edu/chancellor/files/pdfs/State%20of%20the%20University%20Address%202011.pdf], and the Vice Chancellor’s Fall report, Report of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, [http://www.umsl.edu/services/academic/Faculty/prov-report-fall2011]. VC Cope finished with the announcement that the campus has initiated its preparations for the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of UMSL’s founding and noted that UMSL-RA vice president David Ganz is the chair of the organizing committee.

Business Meeting
UMSL-RA president David Garin opened the business portion of the Special Meeting by recognizing RA secretary Spaner. Spaner noted that copies of the minutes of the previous UMSL-RA meeting were on each table. He asked for any corrections or additions. Hearing no corrections or additions, Garin ruled the minutes accepted as distributed.

Next to be recognized was Rick Blanton, treasurer. The Treasurer’s Report was the announcement that the balance in the UMSL-RA treasury as of 12/6/2011 was $5632.09.

Garin announced that under the Bylaws the past president is the chair of the nominating committee. On behalf of past president Shirley Martin, Garin asked for volunteers for the nominating committee. The committee presents a slate of nominees for the 2012-13 Elections that take place at the June UMSL-RA meeting. Garin requested that any members interested in serving / willing to serve, please contact either he or Shirley Martin.

Next Garin recognized member Fred Wilke who represents UMSL on the System-wide Retirement, Salary, and Benefits Committee. Fred reported that the Committee is currently focused on the new retirement program approved by the Board of Curators. He noted that none of these changes affect current retirees. Wilke added that RIM is now the myRetiree health program, that the catastrophic health care option has been dropped, but all else is the same.

Finally, Garin introduced Chancellor Emeritus Blanche Touhill who spoke about the book she is writing detailing the history of the first 50 years of the University of Missouri - St. Louis. She and Dave Ganz invited members to submit any stories and pictures they have that detail specifics of this 50 year history.

Garin closed with thanks to Director of University Events Cindy Vantine for organizing this lunch and meeting. He additionally thanked RA Board member Sharon Davis for preparing and producing the RA Fall newsletter. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven D Spaner,
UMSL Retirees Association Secretary