

**Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
University Assembly
September 12, 2017 - 3 p.m.
202 JCPenney**

The meeting of the University Assembly was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by the Senate Chair. Dr. Pamela Stuerke asked for approval of the minutes from the Assembly meeting on April 18, 2017. A member of the University Assembly noted that the title of the Staff Association President in the Report of the Staff Association portion of the minutes should be corrected. Dr. Stuerke noted the change. The University Assembly approved the minutes with the correction.

Report of the Chairperson, Dr. Pamela Stuerke:

- Dr. Stuerke announced that the following changes in senators occurred over the summer:
 - Henry Kang (A&S At-large representative replaced Sarah Lacy)
 - Alice Hall (A&S At-large representative replaced Birgit Noll)
 - Haitao Li (Supply Chain & Analytics Dept. Senator replaced Keith Womer)
 - Maryann Bozzette (Nursing Senator replaced Joan Ruppert)
- Dr. Stuerke stated that the Senate has been asked to share information about a new program on campus called Tiny Tritons. She explained that Tiny Tritons is a series presented by the Office of Student Involvement with UMSL families in mind. With multiple programs throughout the year, these family-friendly programs are geared towards children Pre K-5th grade. An upcoming “trunk or treat” event will be held on Oct. 28 from 12:00 – 2:00 in the MSC Parking Garage. For more information on Tiny Tritons events, visit the Office of Student Involvement Tiny Tritons website.
- Dr. Stuerke reminded all attendees that the deadline for completing the Discrimination Prevention & Title IX Training, as well as the IT Security Awareness Training is Oct. 31.
- Dr. Stuerke announced that the Senate recently elected chairs for all of the 23 Senate/Assembly Committees. She displayed a list of the names of all newly-elected committee chairs. Dr. Stuerke reported that there have also been changes to some committee members. The Chair of the Committee on Committees will present those nominations during the Senate meeting that follows the Assembly meeting.

Report of the Chancellor, Dr. Tom George:

- Chancellor George reported that UMSL has exceeded its financial goals for FY 2017 by ending the year with its first operating fund surplus since FY 2012.
- UMSL continues to see improvements in its research capacity by topping \$20M in expenditures this past year. There was \$18M in expenditures during FY 2016.
- Chancellor George stated that UMSL donors remain generous in their support of our students and programs by contributing gifts and pledges exceeding \$26M the past year. This is the fourth consecutive year that UMSL raised over \$26M for the total exceeding \$110M.

- A total of 3,063 undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees were issued by UMSL. It is the third year that UMSL has topped 3,000 degrees.
- Chancellor George reported that there was a 10% increase in freshmen enrollment. Overall, the projected total enrollment will be approximately 16,700 which is down a bit from last year's figure of 17,000. The official enrollment totals will not be available until Oct 1. UMSL is down about 5% in degree-seeking students, but that is actually what was expected.
- Chancellor George announced that the results of the Climate Survey will be shared with the campus community on Sept. 15 at 10:30 in the JCPenney Summit Lounge. He reported that 75% of the total respondents were comfortable or very comfortable with the overall campus climate.
- Chancellor George invited the entire campus community to attend the State of the University Address on Sept. 27 at 3:00 in the JCPenney auditorium.

Report of the Staff Association, Ms. Jessica Long-Pease:

Ms. Long-Pease reported that the Staff Council will meet on Thursday. The Staff Council will meet to review and discuss the Strategic Plan and provide feedback. The Intercampus Staff Advisory Council met in August to set the agenda items for the year. She also reported that the merit increase letters have been distributed to the staff.

Report of the Student Government Association (SGA), Mr. Sean Burkett:

Mr. Burkett welcomed this year's new student senators. He reported that the SGA conducted a retreat on Aug. 25 and discussed activities for the upcoming year. The Intercampus Student Council met over the summer, but nothing to report at this time. He invited everyone to attend the SGA Assembly meeting on Oct. 6. Mr. Burkett announced that the Campus Safe Walk will be held on Oct. 3 at 6:30 and will meet in the Provincial House Museum Room. He explained that the Campus Safe Walk provides an opportunity for groups of faculty, staff, and students to walk throughout the campus and identify safety concerns. Senate Chair Stuerke commented that she participated in last year's Campus Safe Walk and encouraged everyone to attend.

Campus Police Outreach, Officer Brian Clements:

Officer Brian Clements presented information to the University Assembly regarding services that the campus police provide which include: safety escorts, office lockouts/let-ins, emergency notifications, and vehicle service jumpstarts/lockouts. As part of their community outreach, Officer Clements encouraged the campus community to notify him if a department or unit would like a safety presentation or needs assistance at special events. He is also available to give presentations regarding drugs, sexual assault, escape and evasion, and can conduct a self-defense class. Officer Clements answered questions and addressed the concerns of the University Assembly.

The Changing Fiscal Environment, Mr. Ryan Rapp:

Mr. Ryan Rapp, UM System Vice President for Finance and CFO, addressed the University Assembly. He thanked UMSL for facing its budget challenges. Mr. Rapp said that UMSL is a model to other UM System campuses and that UMSL's hard work is being noticed. Mr. Rapp presented information which reflected how higher education is changing in Missouri. He presented charts and graphs which explained how student and state support has changed over the years. He recommended that the University must look inward and take a long-term approach to addressing

cuts that prepare the System's institutions for sustained excellence. Following his presentation, he answered questions and addressed comments from the University Assembly.

Strategic Planning Process, Dr. Kristin Sobolik:

Provost Sobolik explained the Strategic Planning Process document that was distributed to the University Assembly prior to the meeting. She displayed slides which showed the draft vision statement and described the four compacts. Provost Sobolik explained that UMSL can change the four compacts to identify what is important to UMSL and link those ideas to our finances. She reported that she is organizing a leadership team to work on the Strategic Plan. Faculty, staff, and students will be asked to work on the four compacts. Each compact will have its own chair. Provost Sobolik requested feedback on the "process" for the strategic planning. She explained that a draft of UMSL's Strategic Plan is due to UM System by Dec. 1, 2017 and we must move expeditiously to meet the deadline. Provost Sobolik asked that any comments regarding the Strategic Plan be sent to her by Sept. 25. The Provost addressed questions and concerns regarding the strategic planning process.

Dr. Stuerke asked the University Assembly whether the members were willing to endorse the strategic planning process. Discussion included concerns about having equitable representation when choosing the members for the committee compacts. Some SGA representatives felt that they would like more time to review the document before voting on the strategic plan process. Some Faculty Senators expressed that they understood the process and were ready to vote. **A motion was made to delay the vote until a later date.** The motion was seconded. By a show of hands, the University Assembly voted on whether to delay the vote. The total number of votes *in favor* of delaying the vote was 15. The total number of votes *not in favor* of delaying the vote was 27. **The motion failed. A motion was made to endorse the *process* for the Strategic Plan.** The motion was seconded. The University Assembly voted on endorsing the process. By a show of hands, those who voted *in favor* of the process were 28. Those who *opposed* the process were 13. **The motion passed. The University Assembly approved the *process* for the Strategic Plan.**

There being no other business, the University Assembly meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Gibb
Senate/Assembly Secretary

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