Provost and Interim Chancellor **Kristin Sobolik** gave a report at the 2019 Holiday Luncheon on December 4 at the Glen Echo Country Club. She announced that **Joel Glassman** had been honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award and that the Higher Education Accreditation Commission fully accredited the University with no improvements being recommended. She reported that over 3000 students will have graduated from UMSL in 2019 and 70% of St. Louis workers are alumni of the institution. UMSL was identified as a Tier 1 institution for the sixth year in a row, noting rising graduation and retention rates. Research expenses increased by 65% in past 4 years, more than any other Missouri institution. UMSL was ranked in the Top 100 of American universities by "US News and World Report," one of only two universities so named in Missouri. Student grade point averages have increased to 3.45 and the freshman class entering in Fall, 2019 had the highest ACT scores on record, raised from 24 to 24.5. Enrollment decreased somewhat, as it has across the nation. Efforts to increase enrollment have included the University working with a firm on a strategic plan, focusing especially on money management. Dr. Sobolik stressed how the University is concentrating on graduate programs and continuing to serve adult students. Ten new programs are currently being offered to students. The University budget is balanced for the third year in a row. With respect to major challenges, strategic investments are needed and are currently being developed; including increasing diversity and inclusive scholarships, merit raises for employees and space consolidation plans to address deferred maintenance. Dr. Sobolik also noted that **Betty Van Uum** initiated and created improvements in the University physical plan with a redesign of Natural Bridge and the campus North Entrance.