Dear Colleagues:

I attended the Board of Curators' Meeting in Kansas City on November 29-30. There was excitement due to the Missouri Tigers football game in San Antonio. In fact, the schedule was rearranged so some of the Curators could go to the game.

President Lamb spoke of the initial meeting of the Missouri 100 which was deemed successful. President Lamb and some of the State leaders have been traveling around Missouri and spreading the word about UM. The goal is to hit 50 cities in the State in 6 months. UM generates 23% of the R&D in the State. Lamb plans to stay on as Interim President until the conclusion of the Presidential search. (There has not been an announcement on the search yet. I personally think we will not have a new president by the beginning of 2008, but I am not certain about it.)

The Chancellors reported on their Capital Campaigns. Chancellor Carney reported on ours which has now raised $125M out of $200M expected by 2010. The Campaign is right on schedule. At the end of the Campaign our endowment will be around $150M. Chancellor George reported on the increases in giving to UMSL. Their first campaign, in its quiet phase has a target of $100M by 2012. Chancellor Bailey reported on just finishing the 7-year campaign, raising $200M. Their endowment is now over $200M. Chancellor Deacon reported on their campaign which I believe has a target of $1B.

The consent agenda was passed unanimously (Wassinger absent) with Item #4 taken out for separate discussion. The consent agenda included the changes to the UMR/MST Bylaws and the Collected Rules and Regulations. Item number #4, on the Name changes, was discussed. The Curators felt that the University of Missouri could be used by the campuses but, most specifically, UMC would be allowed to use the term in fundraising, athletics, and recruiting.

Amendment to Collected Rules and Regulations, 170.060
University Identification and Symbols

The proposed action to amend Collected Rules and Regulations 170.060 is for the purpose of having the same conform to the new campus name for University of Missouri-Rolla that will become effective January 1, 2008 and to make modifications and clarifications with respect to the utilization of campus names and acronyms for each of the given campus’s including utilization of the name of “University”. The attached sheets show the current status of the Collected Rule and Regulation and show the additions and deletions thereto for your reference is seeing what changes are being made by this proposed action. [I did not have access to the sheets during the meeting.]

The Board discussed the exchange programs with neighboring states, like Kansas, in areas such as dentistry, pharmacy, and architecture.

Interim Vice President Steve Graham spoke about our systems for eliminating inactive courses. Some Curators were concerned about the teaching of courses with low numbers of students enrolled. It was stated that this is seldom done.

Centers and Institutes. The Chancellors gave summaries of the Centers on their campuses. One of the Curators requested a breakdown by Center of institutional funds and external funds generated. There are 20 Centers at UMR. At UMR, there has been a 44% reduction in Research Centers since 2002. One of the 10 Research Centers will be terminated in 2008. The Centers
generate a 600% return on investment based on external funds. There are also 10 support centers, which also get additional support from other sources to a lesser extent.

There was an update on the UM Wellness Program. Some programs are scheduled to be rolled out on the Rolla campus in 2008.

The legislature will likely be putting some kind of cap on tuition increases.

Vice President for Finance Krawitz reported on the financial status of the University. There were some questions about the distribution of our investments. A quarterly report on University Finances is available on the BOC's web site (or I can send you a copy).

There was a fire alarm and the building cleared. Apparently no fire or emergency.

Examples of the electronic procurement system were given. The system is in test phase and is expected to net considerable savings as well as 1-stop shopping. VP Finance Krawitz talked about additional bonding and bond ratings.

Several contracts were let by the Board.

Resolutions were read in honor of Legal Counsel Marvin (Bunky) Wright and VP Human Resources Ken Hutchenson,

Curator Walker (a UMR graduate) was elected as Chair of the Board of Curators. Bo Frasier was elected as Vice Chair. [I believe Ms. Walker will be an excellent President.]

On Friday, there was a breakfast highlighting the activities of the faculty and students at UMKC. The Board went into closed session and I came home.

Regards
Frank