May 10, 2008

To: Missouri University of Science and Technology Faculty

Re: Intercampus Faculty Council (IFC) Reports

IFC discussed, with great enthusiasm, the possibilities for faculty grading in cases of academic dishonesty. This issue will occupy more discussion time by IFC.

The issue of the library switching to SCOPUS (dropping Web of Science), in the future, without discussing it with faculty groups was discussed. It seems UMSL and UMKC faculty were likely involved in the decision/testing.

Campus reports:
UMSL - Faculty ranking of administrators will be done on line. All members of the Senate will be able to see the numerical results. They have five SB-389 Consumer Information questions. Budget and Planning meetings seem to draw a lot of people.
UMC - Special faculty meeting was held to discuss the “Compete Missouri” initiative. A retreat of Faculty officers and Administrators occurred. Each major administrator will meet with a Faculty Council person to facilitate communication. UMC had seven sports teams in the 90th percentile academic progress rates. There were mostly womens' sport teams.
At UMKC, there are a number of Dean searches going on. There is also a search for a Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. A number of capital projects are underway, of which only one is State funded.
MS&T - Different groups are looking at graduate admissions and stipends/fees. The change to Scopus without faculty input was noted. The campus has done a lot of work on CCR's, Bylaws, and Special Programs. It would not have been possible without a very active committee system with effective committee chairs. We expect to make more changes next year.

Gary Allen reported on the emergency notification system. Generally, there have been low enrollments on campuses (typically around 30%, although MS&T was about 55% for faculty). Student participation ranged from 13 – 27% in April. The enrollment is lower than that needed for safety. There will be consideration of an op-out program.

Dealing with dangerous situations in the classroom and on campus. It is a balance between several laws and ways of handling situations. During this discussion, it became clear that the relationships between UM Legal and faculty need to be clarified.

President Forsee reported that we are likely to get a 4.2% increase in allocations. Problems with faculty salaries were not dealt with directly by the Legislature, but remain a high priority for the System. A "Strategic Planning" initiative is underway in which one of the main forces will be financial. The campuses need to keep their strategic plans in order. There may be a new focus...
on "Centers of Excellence". The biggest issue for the President has been conveying an understanding across the State for what higher does.

Health Care Program. If there are problems with our health care provider, then they should be forwarded to Mike Paden at UM. In principle, the coverages under Coventry should be similar to those under United, although some of the specifics may be different.

The program on “Preventing Sexual Harassment” will be required on all campuses for all employees (M&ST has had it for years).

Frank D. Blum, President
Douglas R. Carroll, Secretary
Kurt L. Kosbar, Past President