Spectrum

Floyd highlights University accomplishments

In his report to the University of Missouri Board of Curators, President Elson S. Floyd highlighted accomplishments that demonstrate the University's success in working toward the goals and vision of the Strategic Plan.

The first theme in the Strategic Plan is access to quality learning and teaching. The University enrolled a record 63,384 students in fall 2005, approximately 1,000 more than the previous year's record. Total enrollment increased 12 percent over the past five years. The University needs to continue to grow its enrollment, Floyd said.

"It is important to note that 81 percent of all students enrolled in fall 2005 at the University are Missouri residents," Floyd said. "We have a strong, rich, deep commitment to Missourians first and foremost, and we'll do everything that we can to make sure our University is the institution of first choice for those students."

The enhanced admissions policy approved by the board at its December 2005 meeting means that even more high-achieving students can attend the University.

The University also continues to attract quality students. In fact, 59 percent of the Bright Flight students attending four-year public institutions in the state made the University of Missouri their first choice in 2004–2005. The Columbia and Rolla campuses ranked first and third, respectively, in the number of Bright Flight students attending Missouri institutions.

With the Missouri Endowed Scholarship Program, established with $4 million from FY05 state appropriations matched with private funds, the University created 266 scholarships for its neediest students. The University granted nearly 13,000 degrees in 2005. The University also provides the skilled graduates crucial for the state's knowledge-based industries, Floyd said.

Floyd said the University will continue to actively work to achieve academic and research quality. He cited endowed chairs; life sciences research; growth in federal research and development funding; and technology transfer as examples of the University's strengths.

The University is active in community- university engagement, the third theme. "If one were to think of the total budget associated with the University of Missouri, which is approximately $2.1 billion, and the number of employees we have, which total over 25,000, the University of Missouri would be the 21st-largest publicly-held company in the state," he said. "We are continuing to make sure that we leverage the investment that Missourians make in our University to have the maximum return for Missouri."

University of Missouri Health Care continues to be a priority in this regard and is in the midst of a fiscal recovery.

The President's Academic Leadership Institute and the Administrative Leadership Development Program were mentioned as examples of the University's investment in people, as consistent with the fourth theme of valuing people and creating a highperforming organization.

Improving core processes is the fifth theme. At the December board meeting, Floyd asked each campus to look at reducing administrative costs by 10 percent, or a total of about $12.5 million, in order to redirect funds to instruction, research and service.

The sixth theme, developing and managing resources, is demonstrated by the successful capital campaigns underway at each campus.

"We are a University on the move," he said. "We will always focus on quality, excellence, affordability, accountability and making sure the doors of our University are open and accessible."

October 2005 research board awards announced

The University of Missouri Research Board, a University-wide panel composed of 20 faculty members, has awarded over $1 million to support 43 research projects across the University's four campuses.

The board has established a network of UM experts in each discipline. The board addresses specific criteria in evaluating a request. The board then considers the recommendations of the peer reviewers. William Miller, professor of nuclear engineering at UM-Columbia, chairs the research board.

In October, researchers from UM filed 144 requests for grants, totaling over $5 million. Approximately 30 percent of the requests were approved and approximately 19 percent of the total dollar amount requested was awarded.

The board granted eight engineering requests for a total of $205,210; nine in humanities and fine arts for a total of $80,649; 15 in life sciences for a total of $480,855; five in physical sciences and mathematics for a total of $100,129; and six in social and behavioral sciences for a total of $150,618.

UM-Columbia

- Bruce Bartholow, Psychological Sciences, $34,227
- Reginald Cocroft, Biological Sciences, $33,000
- Deyu Fang, Molecular Microbiology & Immunology, $27,321
- Walter Gassmann, Plant Microbiology, $34,000
- Matthew Gompper, Fisheries & Wildlife, $30,003
- Bina Gupta, Philosophy, $8,712
- Marc Johnson, Life Sciences, $27,321
- William Kerwin, English, $12,160
- Jae Wan Kwon, Electrical Engineering, $25,592

- Justin Legarsky, Electrical Engineering, $28,800
- Dennis Lubahn, Biochemistry, $27,321
- Hongbin Ma, Mechanical/ Floyd highlights University accomplishments Aerospace Engineering, $29,300
- James Miller, Theater, $10,000
- Michael Misfeldt, Molecular Microbiology & Immunology, $27,321
- Brenda Peculis, Biochemistry, $27,321
- Patricia Schnitzer, Nursing, $34,764
- David Setzer, Biological Science, $27,321
- Hongchi Shi, Computer Engineering, $11,368
- Donna Strickland, English, $6,287
- Peter Tipton, Biochemistry, $27,321
- Michael Underwood, Geological Sciences, $10,385
- Matthew Will, Psychological Sciences, $32,000
- Yin Xia, Agricultural Economics, $17,000

UM-Kansas City

- Andrew Begerson, History, $6,300
- Frances Connelly, Art & Art History, $10,390
- Ekaterina Kadnikova, Chemistry, $23,839
- John Laity, Cell Biology & Biophysics, $30,000
- Nathan Oyler, Chemistry, $23,839
- Jane Solose, Music, $10,500
- Chuanjun Zhang, Engineering, $26,800

UM-Rolla

- Michael Davis, Economics & Finance, $17,000
- Mehdi Ferdowsi, Electrical Engineering, $27,300
- Jennifer Leopold, Computer Science, $18,000
- Julia Medvedeva, Physics, $20,900
- Yahong Zheng, Electrical Engineering, $31,050

UM-St. Louis

- Qingtang Jiang, Mathematics & Computer Science, $21,166
- Hyung Kang, Mathematics & Computer Science, $25,000
- Michael Nichols, Chemistry, $27,000
- Gualtiero Piccinini, Philosophy, $10,000
- Nancy Shields, Sociology, $15,627
- Nanora Sweet, English, $6,300
- Chung Wong, Chemistry, $30,000
- Bethany Zolman, Biology, $87,605

University of Missouri briefs

Board approves resolution in appreciation of governor's initiative

The University of Missouri Board of Curators approved a resolution in appreciation of Gov. Matt Blunt's Lewis & Clark Discovery Initiative at its Jan. 27 meeting in Columbia.

Under the initiative, the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA) would put select assets up for sale. The proceeds would be invested to the benefit of Missouri higher education, including capital projects, student scholarships, endowed chairs and the development of technology businesses near campuses. The initiative would fund capital improvement projects at all UM campuses.

Board approves retention of firms for construction projects

The board approved contracts for construction projects at UMColumbia at its Jan. 27 meeting.

The board approved the firm of The Clark Enersen Partners, Kansas City, Mo., for design services for Lafferre Hall (Engineering Building East) renovation.

Ross & Baruzzini, St. Louis, Mo., was approved for design services for the McDavid Hall renovation.

A schematic design prepared by Mackey Mitchell Associates, St. Louis, Mo., for the Student Center/Brady Commons expansion, also was approved by the board.

GLPM Architects, Inc., Kansas City, Mo., was approved for a schematic design for the Schweitzer Hall addition and renovation.

Board approves MBA degree proposal for UMR

The board approved a proposal for a new degree for a master of business administration at UMRolla. The program would be part of the School of Management and Information Systems and would combine business, technology and Enterprise Resource Planning.

The proposed degree program now goes to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education for approval.

UM names new chief procurement officer

The University of Missouri has named Bill Cooper as its chief procurement officer. Cooper last served as director of procurement services for the California Institute of Technology. Prior to

Caltech, his 36-year procurement career includes higher education directorships at California State University- Northridge and Cincinnati Technical and Community College, as well as leading commercial and federal procurement operations with Revlon and the General Services Administration.

Procurement Services manages the purchasing operations for all UM campuses.

Board approves master plan for UMSL tech park

The board approved a master development plan for the University Place/NorthPark, UMSL Business, Technology and Research Park. Curators previously designated the UM-St. Louis tech park as an office and research park as provided in the Missouri Statues Section 172.273.

Kelly named Minority Business Coordinator of the Year

Kelly named Minority Business Coordinator of the Year Jacqueline Hall Kelly, Ph.D., UM director of minority business development, received the Minority Business Coordinator of the Year Award at the annual Minority Supplier Council's luncheon Jan. 26 in Kansas City.

Kelly was honored for her contributions to supplier diversity. The Minority Supplier Council is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to increase procurement and other business opportunities for majority and minority businesses.

2006 board committees

- Executive Committee: Don Walsworth, Chair; Thomas E. Atkins; Cheryl D.S. Walker; Angela M. Bennett, J.D., ex officio
- Academic & Student Affairs Committee: Thomas E. Atkins, Chair; Marion H. Cairns; David G. Wasinger; Maria C. Curtis, ex officio
- Finance & Human Resources Committee: Anne C. Ream, O.D., Chair; John M. Carnahan III; Doug Russell; Cheryl D.S. Walker; Don Walsworth
- Physical Facilities & Management Services Committee: Cheryl D.S. Walker, Chair; Anne C. Ream, O.D.; David G. Wasinger
- Resources & Planning Committee: Marion H. Cairns, Chair; John M. Carnahan III; Doug Russell.

Bennett shares good news from campuses in first report to board

In her first report as president of the University of Missouri Board of Curators, Angela Bennett focused on good news from each campus.

During her tenure as board president, Bennett said she will make such "did you know" sessions a priority to highlight news that is often overlooked.

Among the campus stories Bennett shared was that of Sheryl Tucker, a chemistry professor at UM-Columbia and founder of the Magic of Chemistry program. Tucker is a recipient of a 2005 U.S. Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring.

Bennett praised the debate teams at UM-Kansas City, who captured three National Debate Tournament titles during the past four years at the Cross Examination Debate Association National Tournament.

Student members of the UMRolla Engineers Without Borders chapter were acknowledged for their work in Guatemala rebuilding homes destroyed by an earthquake. Students also traveled to Bolivia to design sewage and latrine systems. Bennett recognized UM-St. Louis graduate student Corneille Ewango, who won what many consider the "Nobel Prize for the environment" for risking his life to protect the Okapi Wildlife Reserve in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The University makes a statewide impact through the programs and services of extension, Bennett said. She also highlighted the uncompensated care provided by University of Missouri Health Care, as well as record growth in the University's federal research and development expenditures.

Such stories are "only a drop in the bucket of the wonderful things we are doing at the University to the advantage of our state, nation and world," Bennett said.