

UM Staff Advisory Council Newsletter

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July 18, 2012 - Volume 1, Issue 3

SAC Mission: To advise the president on matters of mutual interest and to serve as an information and liaison medium for employees and administrative officers on such matters as may be referred to the council, as the council initiates, or as UM employees may request.

To post a question, comment, or suggestion, please email UMSAC@umsystem.edu or communicate with one of us. We are here for you!



Being a SAC member • Jenny L. Workman – Program Manager Healthy for Life

This is my last year on UM-SAC, and it has been my honor to be surrounded by so many wonderful people. One of my favorite events is the Staff Picnic. I love being outside in nature, and it is such a relaxing environment hanging out with our colleagues. It has been a true pleasure getting to know the other SAC members and to build relationships with other UM departments. I'd like to take a moment to thank all members of SAC over the years and our past chairs (Nathan Billings, Karla Dowd and current Chair Christy Ludeman) for making the meetings a lot of fun. I love to work hard, but play hard too. Surrounding myself around positive and hardworking people makes the extra work very gratifying. I enjoy the camaraderie and truly feel blessed to be working with such a wonderful organization.

Updates from SAC

We have two items to report from our SAC meeting. First, please go out to our website and take advantage of the great discounts that we have to offer for Six Flags, Worlds of Fun, Big Surf, St. Louis Science Center, Silver Dollar City and other organizations at <http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/sac/resources>. In addition, we are planning our next event, Trivia Day, for August 16 at General Services Building from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. So get your teams signed up when we send out the sign up form.



We Have Our Fun • ***Staff Recognition Picnic – June 1, 2012***

This annual summertime celebration recognizes the contributions of UM System staff in a relaxed and social setting. This year's event was held at Twin Lakes and included a picnic lunch and a presentation of awards for staff recognition and years of service. This year, the UM System recognized 93 employees for their years of service ranging from 5 to 40 years. The picnic this year was well attended with about 230 people. It was also very encouraging and meaningful to see many members of the executive leadership there to support the staff. The positive and entertaining atmosphere was conveyed by hugs, smiling faces, laughs and discussion among the employees throughout the picnic. We hope this event gave you the opportunity to network and to get to know your co-workers. Your continuous support and enthusiasm gives a boost to the positive spirit of UM-SAC members to continue their efforts for such events. Also, UM-SAC would like to thank all those who generously donated to The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri. Your efforts resulted in a total of 295 pounds of food and \$246.26 in donations!!! Every \$1 donated is leveraged to distribute 20 pounds of food that provides 15 meals for people in need.

A special thanks to those of you who took time to participate in this year's survey following the picnic. About 100 employees across the system provided various recommendations and suggestions for improvement next year.

We hope that more employees can join us for future UM-SAC events. We are very excited by the continuous success of our events and plan to continue our efforts to make them better in the coming years. Please feel free to contact any UM-SAC member or send an email to umsac@umsystem.edu.

For photographs of the event, please visit:
<http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/sac>.

In the words of a UM System employee who completed 25 years of service — and received this year's President's Award:

SPEAK GENTLY THEN

*The swift and whispering years have run their course.
My wandering feet walked many paths I found
And some I made and others trod by force.
Some I did block. For some I made new ground.
Speak gently then, for I have been.*

*You'll never know of silent struggles fought
Or what the outcome left by way of scars.
You'll never know what gifts my will has bought,
Nor see my twilight sky filled with my stars.
Speak gently then, for I have been.*

*Take up my tasks and don the shoes you'll fill.
Think of all I left you that is good.
And when your time does come, as soon it will,
Tread softly to the place where once I stood.*

*For all of my accomplishments and sin,
Speak gently then. Remember, I have been.*

~ Roxie Shaw



Roxie Shaw receiving the President's Award by UM System President Timothy M. Wolfe



Relate to your leaders • Nikki Krawitz, VP for Finance and Administration

Nikki Krawitz, vice president for finance and administration, poses with her husband, Aaron, at Victoria Falls in southern Africa. Krawitz visited the area last year on vacation.

The writer, Bandhana Katoch, vice chair of UM-SAC, recently met with Krawitz to learn more about her and to share her life experiences.

Originally from Atlanta, Krawitz moved to Missouri to pursue her studies at Washington University in St. Louis. She moved to Columbia in 1978 and has been employed at the University of Missouri for 16 years. She has thoroughly enjoyed her time at the university due to the many opportunities in higher education. She has a passion for public education and agrees that education is the backbone for every country. Working at the university has been a fun and interesting experience for her.

Here is snapshot of the interview with Nikki Krawitz: who serves as vice president for finance and administration.

What is your favorite moment?

The birth of my son, Adam, who is now married and has one daughter. Having a grandchild is also a unique and exciting experience.

What is your favorite book?

Reading books has been an important part of my life. However, my favorite book this year is Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson. In this book, Isaacson narrates the fascinating story of Steve Jobs, who is known for revolutionizing six prominent industries. This book is a great read giving insight into his life and creative works over his short life.

What are your interests?

Reading, travelling and walking about six to eight miles on the MKT with a group of four friends every weekend for almost 15 years.



Please share some of your travelling experience.

One of the most unforgettable travels was when, within the same year, I travelled to the southernmost tip of Africa and northernmost tip of Europe. Hopefully by next year I will have travelled to six continents of the world. During travels, I find every place has its own interesting and fascinating experience. Traveling to South Africa made the greatest impression on me. It was a heartfelt experience to see how certain groups of people in the country were unfairly treated, but still were able to overcome the anger and could lay a strong foundation to a functional country. It was an inspiring experience to see that instead of destroying the country in retribution they had embraced the country in reconciliation. The country has beautiful landscape, wildlife and other natural resources.

What is your favorite thing in Columbia?

That is hard one to answer. To name a few—MKT, Ragtag Cinema, True/False Festival and, of course, the people of Columbia, Mo.

What is your favorite music?

I can enjoy any kind of music. However, I mostly listen to jazz, blues, classic(al??? or classic rock?) and folk.

What motivates and inspires you?

Benefiting the greater good in some way—whether to society or individually—always motivates me. My inspiration lies in complex and challenging problems and finding solutions for them.



Featured Staff Member • Steve Massman, MOREnet



His wood comes from a variety of sources, including tree trimmers and word of mouth. He creates work on the lathe without any modification to create a traditional feel with modern ideas. He is proud that his work is attractive as well as useful. He puts it this way: "For my work to be admired is one thing, but for my work to be used and enjoyed fulfills my purpose as a craftsman." He finds it particularly gratifying when he can make a memento out of a beloved family tree after it reaches the end of its life.

Steve's work can be found at Blue Stem in Columbia or through <http://massmans.etsy.com>.

Steve Massman has been working at MOREnet for almost 13 years. He is a system administrator with Windows servers and VMware.

Massman has been interested in wood crafts since high school. He has been actively turning since 2005 and is a member of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) and also helped form a local chapter of the AAW under the Midwest Woodworkers Association in Columbia. He is a proud juried member of the Best of Missouri Hands.

Massman is devoted to producing quality crafts and educating the public about woodturning. He has volunteered his time by sharing turning techniques with a local high school woodworking class. He also loves opportunities to share woodturning with the public at various art shows throughout the year.



The Featured Staff Member section recognizes the talents that are personal that we often don't get to see at work. Do you know a UM System employee who would like to be featured in our Featured Staff Member section? Just let us know and we will contact him or her.



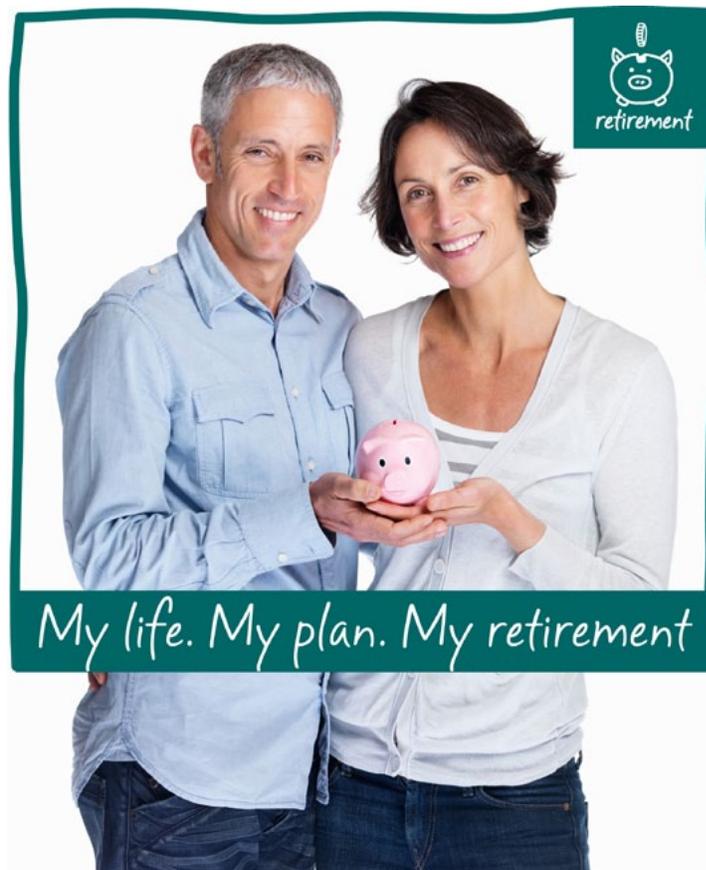


Total Rewards

Saving for retirement just became simpler through changes that the UM System is making to the Voluntary Retirement Plans. As a university employee, either benefit eligible or not benefit eligible, you can save for retirement and reduce your taxable income...all at the same time!

Beginning Aug. 1, faculty and staff members who are currently participating in the 403(b), 457(b) and/or the 401(a) will need to review vendor and investment elections and take action to ensure that future payroll deductions are invested according to their retirement strategy. For those not yet participating, it is a great time to learn about the options. It is never too early or too late to get started.

To help you understand what this transition means to you, informational guides will be sent to all employees' homes at the end of July and group informational meetings will be held on all campuses in August and September. In addition, retirement representatives are available to meet with you one-on-one to help guide you through the process. These one-on-one sessions are confidential and there is no cost to you. Please see the Total Rewards website at <http://www.umsystem.edu/totalrewards/retirement> for additional information about the changes that are taking place.



Mark your Calendars

SAC Events 2012

- Trivia Day – Thursday, Aug. 16, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the General Services Building on the MU campus.

University Concert Series – http://www.concertseries.org/performances	
Thursday, July 26– 28	Mizzou New Music Summer Festival
Friday, Sept. 7	Sinbad
Saturday, Sept. 28	Wines and Champagnes
Friday, Oct. 5	38 Special
Sunday, Oct. 7	Titanic, the musical
Tuesday, Oct. 9	Cirque Chinois
Wednesday, Oct. 10	New Dance Horizons

All dates subject to change

MU Summer Rep Theater 2012 • <http://summerrep.missouri.edu/>

Get Involved

To explore fun events at Mizzou, please visit: <http://stufftodo.missouri.edu/?eventcategory=arts>

City of Columbia

<https://www.gocolumbiamo.com/CMS/webcal/index.php?month=1&year=2012&cat=>

For other activities, check out City Newsletters at

http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Public_Comm/Public_Information/

Discounts:

For updated information visit: <http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/sac/resources>

