

Curators' 6-3 vote halts proposal to establish UMSL optometry school

The UM system Board of Curators last week voted 6-3 in support of a request by President James C. Olson. He requested that plans to establish a regional optometry school next fall at the St. Louis campus be dropped.

"I cannot in good conscience recommend that we proceed," Dr. Olson told the curators during a regularly scheduled meeting at UMSL Feb. 15. "In fairness to all—and particularly to prospective students—we must not let this matter drag on."

The matter he was referring to was legislation passed in 1978 that directed the Missouri Department of Higher Education to seek agreements from neighboring states. The agreements would have allowed Missouri and those states to have established a regional school of optometry at UMSL. In addition, the legislation decreed that 75 percent of the capital construction costs be met by federal funds.

The legislation, commonly referred to as HB 1691, specifies that operating and other capital costs would have to be shared with other states and the federal government. UM was given \$200,000 to begin developing a structure for the school. UMSL was in the process of hiring personnel for the new school, in preparation for its opening next fall.

Dr. Olson told the board that UMSL Chancellor Arnold Grobman

and his staff had successfully completed their part of the assignment, but that the department of higher education had not received any favorable responses from other states to participate in the proposed school. "Moreover, there is no hope in the foreseeable future for federal funds to cover 75 percent of the capital construction costs," the UM president said.

Use of a \$170,000 federal grant for help in start-up costs was contingent upon the school's being able to accept students in the fall of 1980.

Dr. Olson said the University is stymied from completing the task under the enabling legislation, and that repeal or modification of HB 1691 is almost impossible this legislative session.

Dr. Olson said that in view of these circumstances and the fact that only 10 percent of the 400 student applicants are from Missouri, it was his recommendation that all efforts to develop the regional school cease. "To continue would only raise expectations," he said.

The UM president said that as chief administrator of the four-campus system he must consider the budgetary needs of the University's existing obligations in health, energy and food production. He also said the University must develop programs at UMSL that would serve many more St. Louis

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Olson focuses on need for preservation funds in recent capital improvements testimony

Emphasizing the need for physical plant preservation funds to maintain existing University facilities, UM President James C. Olson testified Feb. 4 before the Senate Appropriations Committee on behalf of UM's request for more than \$44 million in total capital improvement funds for 1980-81.

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education has recommended that UM receive \$26.5 million of its total request, while Gov. Joseph P. Teasdale is supporting \$23.8 million.

The University's request is broken into five categories. The accompanying table shows UM's request in each category, the CBHE recommendation and the governor's recommendation.

Dr. Olson also presented the capital request for the University Hospital. UM is seeking \$293,500 for physical plant preservation, \$189,800 for energy conservation and \$2,390,950 for physical plant improvement, all at

the hospital. The CBHE and the governor are both supporting the plant preservation item; CBHE is recommending \$122,800 for the energy program, but nothing is in the executive budget for it; CBHE supports \$2,071,250 for physical plant improvement, and the governor is recommending \$852,500.

In addition, Dr. Olson explained to the committee UM's request for \$2,250,000 in the 1979-80 supplementary (or emergency) appropriations bill. The funds are needed for the Rolla campus heating plant.

Dr. Olson said that after the legislature had approved \$5 million two years ago to improve the plant, the federal Environmental Protection Agency revised its air quality standards. The plant now must have a baghouse and other features in order to comply with air quality rules.

Research center plans okayed

Two major steps necessary for eventual completion of the Animal Science Research Center at UMC were approved Feb. 15 by the UM system Board of Curators.

The first action was approval of final design plans for the Unit B (phase two) addition to the present facility, built in the early 1970's. The 22,000-square-foot addition will contain research facilities for small, laboratory-type animals. The addition is being funded by a state appropriation of \$2.3 million approved last year by the Missouri General Assembly.

The second board action was approval of the preliminary design for the third and final phase of the research center. Planning funds for the final phase were provided last year by the legislature, and \$7.9 million in construction funds are being sought by UM in the current legislative session. Preparation of final plans for the structure cannot proceed until those funds are received.

The phase three addition will include six separate facilities in about 55,000 square feet of floor space. Among them are an environmental stress laboratory, a natural feeds toxicology laboratory and laboratories for large animal research in reproductive biology, physiology and surgery.

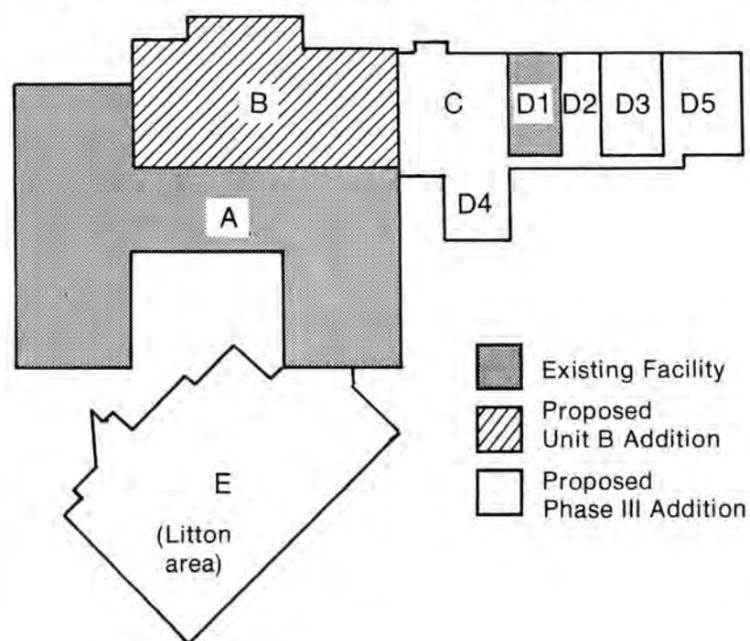
The largest portion of the phase three addition will be the classroom and office area, which will house the departments of animal husbandry, poultry husbandry and dairy husbandry. That section will be named for the late U.S. Congressman Jerry L. Litton, who graduated from UMC in 1961 with a degree in agricultural journalism.

The Litton area of the research center will contain six research laboratories, classrooms, conference rooms, an animal science library and office space for faculty and staff. An auditorium-type classroom facility also is planned.

Approval of the Unit B final plans will lead to the opening of bids on March 11. The work should be completed by the fall of 1981.

Approval of preliminary plans for the phase three addition, and the subsequent appropriation of construction funds by the General Assembly, would tentatively allow completion of the final phase of the center sometime in 1983.

Proposed UMC Animal Science Center



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Category	UM Request	CBHE Recommendation	Governor's Recommendation
Physical Plant Preservation	\$ 3,992,000	\$ 3,197,753	\$ 3,197,753
Physical Plant Improvement	7,644,000	3,625,000	2,675,000
Energy Conservation	904,000	631,000	335,000
Handicap Compliance	2,725,000	1,297,280	282,328
New Construction	29,077,650	17,758,250	17,279,850
Grand Totals	\$44,362,650	\$26,509,283	\$23,769,931

Benefits study finished

An extensive study of UM staff benefits programs has been completed by the UM system's Retirement and Staff Benefits Committee.

The study, made at the request of President James C. Olson, contains numerous recommendations for strengthening, improving and broadening benefits for UM employees. No timetable is given for putting into effect the recommendations, estimated to cost between \$1.5 and \$2 million annually. Implementation of any changes will depend mainly on availability of funds, according to Donald S. Holm, Jr., committee chairman.

Highlights of the report are being communicated to UM faculty and staff through internal publications on the four campuses. President Olson has asked campus chancellors to have copies of the report available for employees who wish to view the document.

UM, black leaders confer

Ways in which UM might more effectively attract and retain black students and professionals are being explored through meetings with St. Louis black leaders, UM President James C. Olson told the Board of Curators Friday.

Although attendance at meetings has varied, Curators William Cocos and Marian Oldham have participated, as well as the four chancellors, several other officials of the University and black leaders from the St. Louis area.

Dr. Olson said the meetings are designed "to improve communications and to develop support and understanding" of the educational and employment needs of the University.

Rise in fees approved

Proposals for student housing fee increases at the Rolla and Kansas City campuses were approved by the UM system Board of Curators at their Feb. 15 meeting. A \$5.75 per semester increase in the student activity fee at UMR was also approved.

The new rates are slated to go into effect next fall. The housing rate increases are needed to improve inadequate reserves used to maintain and restore the dormitories.

The new residence hall rate at UMR represents a 12 percent increase, or an additional \$189 for the academic year. Of that increase, \$4 represents a social and recreational dorm fee which brings that total fee to \$14. UMR also proposes to increase the rate for

married student housing by \$15 per month. Proportionate increases are proposed for the summer session.

UMKC plans to increase its campus housing rate \$100, or 6.6 percent, for the academic year, and to raise the summer session rate \$17.

Housing rates at the Columbia campus will remain the same next year, and UMSL does not have campus housing. The last rate increase for UM campuses went into effect last July and represented inflationary increases of 2 to 3.5 percent, depending on the type of housing.

UMR also plans to raise its student activity fee to \$65.75 for the fall semester and to \$58.25 for the second semester, beginning next year. The summer fee is proportional on a per credit hour basis. The increase was supported by a student referendum.

Optometry, cont.

citizens than an optometry program could.

The three curators voting against Dr. Olson's proposal were William Cocos Jr. and Marian Oldham of St. Louis and William Doak of Vandalia.

Mr. Cocos introduced a motion amending the president's proposal that would have allowed UM to seek full state and federal funding for the school, but this motion was also defeated 6-3.

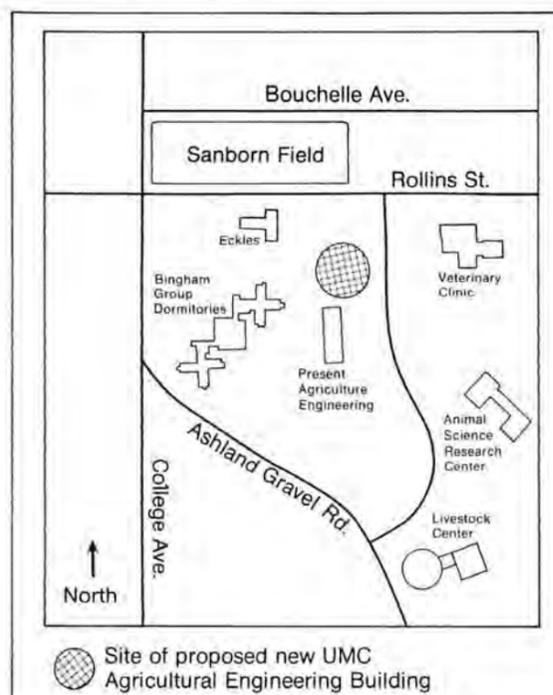
Early this week, the House of Representatives suspended its rules to allow a new optometry bill to be introduced that eliminates some of the restrictive requirements of the earlier legislation.

Meeting in a committee of the whole format in St. Louis, the board also:

- approved final plans for sandblasting and painting two steel parking structures at UMSL. The approval will permit advertising the project for bids.
- approved a contract allowing the Missouri Store Company to produce and sell, by mail order, University sports-related merchandise for the UMC department of intercollegiate athletics. A percentage of sales will be payable to the University.
- approved the medical staff bylaws and rules and regulations. These documents update the processes by which hospital medical staff are appointed, as well as the roles of staff and administrators.
- approved the change of a UMC degree title, from master of science in public administration to master of public administration. The new title reflects the particular emphases of the UMC program at the same time that it brings UMC into conformity with the practices of most other universities offering such a program.
- awarded a construction contract of \$933,300 to Harold G. Butzer, Inc., of Jefferson City. The contract provides for the first phase of improvements to the UMR heating plant.

UMC 19th in Merit honors

UMC leads the Big Eight in the number of National Merit and National Achievement scholars enrolled, and it is ranked 19th nationally this year in the number of National Merit Scholars attending. UMC is tied with Iowa State University, both schools having 155 merit scholars.



The site selected for the proposed agricultural engineering building on the Columbia campus is shown on the accompanying map. The site is in the immediate area where several agricultural engineering facilities now exist.

Preliminary design plans for the new structure have been prepared with planning funds provided by the last session of the Missouri General Assembly.

Funds to construct the new building are now being sought by UM in an appropriation request of \$4.9 million now before the present session of the legislature.

Board approves temporary solution to UMC Hospital's nursing shortage

UMC Hospital was granted approval by the Board of Curators at their Feb. 15 meeting, to enter into a contract with Janna Medical Systems. This action will provide for the temporary employment of up to 30 registered nurses during the next four months.

The Janna regional office in St. Louis will arrange for the supply of nurses during the period from March 7 to July 7 at an anticipated cost of \$265,000.

The expense will be more than offset by the increase in hospital revenue made possible by the opening of 56 beds currently closed because of the nursing shortage, according to Howard Kincaid, assistant hospital

director for personnel.

Under terms of the contract, Janna Medical Systems will supply the number of nurses specified by the hospital at the cost of \$13.95 per hour worked by each nurse. That cost, according to Kincaid, is about \$2 per hour more than the average cost of employing full-time nurses.

"We are using this contract as a way to bridge the gap until we can employ nurses from the spring graduating classes," Mr. Kincaid said. "We are aggressively recruiting future graduates of our own nursing school and others around the country."

The UMC Hospital and Clinics has about 50 nursing vacancies.

Jobs

The following administrative, professional and academic vacancies were listed with *Spectrum* as of Feb. 15. Those interested in a position should contact the appropriate academic department or personnel office.

UMC: Accountant; asst. director, admissions; asst. manager, budget; asst. supervisor, custodial services; counselor, ICA; manager, academic and financial aid services; nurse practitioner; scientific programmer/analyst II (2); senior research specialist; staff nurse-clinical research center; supervisor, broadcast engineering KOMU-TV; *asst. professors*, art (2), computer science, curriculum and instruction, health and physical education, child and family development, family economics and management, broadcasting, microbiology, recreation and park administration, regional and community affairs, social work, veterinary pathology; *assoc. professors*, music, law, family and community medicine, medicine (2), microbiology, recreation and park administration, veterinary medicine and surgery (2), veterinary microbiology, veterinary pathology; *professors*, clothing and textiles, veterinary medicine and surgery; director, academic support center; librarian I (2), librarian II;

UMC-related: Manager, Mizzou Employees Federal Credit Union; **UMca:** asst. radiation safety officer; chemist; computer programmer/analyst I & II; computer project manager (2); directors, facilities management, facility planning and development; research scientist; research specialist (2); senior personnel associate; senior systems analyst (2); senior systems programmer; systems analyst;

UMC Hospital: Asst. director, nursing services (2); computer programmer/analyst II; head nurse (6); management analyst; managers, nursing office, programming; nurse anesthetist; nurse practitioner (6); pharmacist (3); registered medical technologist; senior accountant; senior management engineer; senior methods and procedures analyst (3); senior computer programmer/analyst; senior systems analyst; senior systems programmer; supervisors, outpatient services, telephone communication;

UMR: Coordinator, engineering services; superintendent, power plant; counseling psychologist; *asst. professor*, economics;

UMKC: Asst. Registrar;

UMSL: *Asst. professors*, biology, economics (2), psychology, social work (2), education, special education; reference librarian (2); director, center for academic development.

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