

# SPECTRUM

News from the Dec. 6-7 Board of Curators meeting in Columbia

A revised plan for a cooperative engineering undergraduate degree program for place-bound students in St. Louis was announced by University President C. Peter Magrath. UM-St. Louis Interim Chancellor Blanche Touhill and UM-Rolla Chancellor Martin Jischke drafted the agreement with the support and encouragement of Magrath and System Vice President for Academic Affairs Richard Wallace. The state commissioner of higher education must approve the program. The chancellors hope to initiate the program on a limited basis, Magrath said, but full implementation must await sufficient state funding.

A plan to cut an additional \$3 million from the UM System budget because of lagging state tax receipts was presented by University President C. Peter Magrath. Following this latest reduction, state funds available to the System are just 1.8 percent above last year's spending level, Magrath noted. The \$3 million goal will be met by leaving positions unfilled, deferring equipment replacement and using some unanticipated revenues from educational fees and interest income. The four chancellors recommended the measures, following faculty-staff consultation. "It does hurt and it does have real impact on students, faculty and staff," Magrath said.

Two lawyers, Webb R. Gilmore and John P. Lichtenegger, will lead the board in 1991 as president and vice president, respectively. Gilmore is from Kansas City and Lichtenegger is from Jackson.

The board urged the University to help students, faculty and staff who are called to active duty as a result of the Middle East situation. Students called to active service will be given refunds if they are unable to complete the semester, University President C. Peter Magrath said. He encouraged faculty and staff to work with students to resolve resulting financial and academic dilemmas.

The Distinguished Teaching Professorship has been approved by the board to honor outstanding teachers in the System. The professorship was proposed by the Rolla campus, but any campus may recommend faculty members for the title, which must be curator-approved. The honor is similar to the Curators' Professorship.

Curator Peter Raven, during the last remarks of his board term, blasted the state of Missouri for being "doomed to mediocrity by our miserly attitudes." In his curator's seminar, Raven said the University has a "potentially magnificent mission," but severe underfunding has caused the institution to decline to a "depressed condition." He added, "Low taxes has become a soothing mantra for Missourians, but it is a deadly message."

Faculty Awards: Twenty-eight University of Missouri academicians have received awards of financial support from the Missouri Research Assistance Act. Four UM System researchers have been awarded financial support through the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Program. Two University professors also were appointed to the program's advisory board.

University employees need pay only 25 percent of educational and supplemental fees when they enroll in up to six credit hours, the board has decided. The previous waiver only covered educational fees.

Royalties for licenses and patents developed on the University's four campuses reached an all-time high for fiscal year 1990. The total, \$367,600, is more than five times the 1986 total. "I believe it reflects the success of our patents and licensing office in developing technology transfer applications for faculty inventions," said Mark Burkholder, associate vice president for academic affairs.

UM System libraries are challenged today by the need to support printed information resources "while simultaneously finding the way and the money to deal effectively with the electronic information explosion," said Mark Burkholder, associate vice president for academic affairs, in his report to the board on System libraries. The development of state, regional and national computer networks makes it possible for users on any UM System campus to access on-line library systems across the nation. Many standard library reference tools are being made available in electronic form.

Next meeting: January 30-31 in Jefferson City

