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University of Missouri System

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UM Board of Curators eliminates 35 degree program options

The UM System Board of Curators has approved plans to eliminate 35 degree program options offered by the University.

Affected by the Board's action are eight degree options offered at UM-Columbia, 14 offered at UM-Kansas City and 13 offered at UM-Rolla.

In October the Board heard a report on degree options that produce low numbers of graduates. The report, which was compiled by the four chancellors, proposed eliminating 33 degree options, retaining 91 and further studying 78. The report looked at degree options averaging fewer than five graduates per year at the bachelor's and master's level or fewer than three at the doctoral level from FY 1987-91.

Between FY 1987-91, the University offered a total of 200 degree option programs that

averaged fewer than five graduates. At Columbia, St. Louis and Kansas City the greatest number of options falling into this category were at the master's level. At Rolla, the programs were mostly at the Professional Development Degree (PDD) level.

"The University is constantly making changes in its degree programs," said Richard Wallace, vice president for academic affairs. "Between 1989 and September 1992, 14 programs were added and 30 were dropped throughout the UM System. An example is the cooperative program initiated recently by UMKC and UMSL to offer a master's of science degree in nursing."

Degree programs identified by the chancellors for further study are being reviewed by the faculties on each campus. The chancellors will make final recommendations to the Board on these programs in January.

The 35 degree programs to be eliminated:

UM-Columbia

MS in agricultural mechanization
BS in rural sociology
MA in linguistics
MA, MED in Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education
BSHES in interdependent studies in human environmental science
MA, MS in human environmental science communication
MA in anatomy and neurology
MS in physical science

UM-Kansas City

BA in speech and hearing science
LLM in corporate and commercial law
LLM in criminal law and procedure
LLM in international public and trade law
LLM in trial practice
DMA in music education
MM in church music

UM-Kansas City added:

PhD in chemistry
PhD in chemistry/biochemistry
PhD in counseling and guidance
PhD in reading education
PhD in education administration
PhD in curriculum and instruction
PhD in pharmaceutical science

UM-Rolla

PDD in chemical engineering
PDD in civil engineering
PDD in electrical engineering
PDD in engineering management
PDD in engineering mechanics
PDD in aerospace engineering
PDD in mechanical engineering
PDD in ceramic engineering
PDD in geological engineering
PDD in petroleum engineering
PDD in metallurgical engineering
PDD in mining engineering
PDD in nuclear engineering

UM-St. Louis

none

Russell announces new search for extension director

UM System President George Russell has reopened the national search for a leader to reorganize and evaluate all University Extension programs, he announced at the Dec. 3-4 meeting of the UM Board of Curators.

"I am convinced that all of the outreach programs conducted by the University need careful scrutiny" he said. "I suspect we are at a time when we need to reinvent our outreach mission to prepare for the next century. Therefore I plan immediately to institute a national search, including both internal and external candidates, for a person who has the vision and experience needed to shape and build an outreach program for the next century."

Russell said initially that person will report to him and be charged with evaluating all outreach programs and activities, preparing a plan of action to include means for delivering education through modern technology, and developing a "responsive, lean administrative

structure that is capable of evaluating everything we do."

Russell also said continuing education programs currently administered by University Extension are campus programs and should be operated on campus on a fee-for-service basis.

In general, President Russell's recommendations echo those of the 13-member task force he appointed to study the organization and efficiency of University Extension. The task force recommended a substantial reduction in the administrative structure of extension, including elimination of regional directors and of system-level program development and management positions. Among other recommendations, the task force urged that continuing education be largely self-supporting and administered separately from cooperative extension.

The task force was chaired by Charles Kruse, former member of the Board of Curators and former Missouri Director of Agriculture. Its membership included legislators Sidney Johnson, Chris Kelly and Phil Tate; Curators John

Lichtenegger and James McHugh; UM-St. Louis Chancellor Blanche Touhill; UM-Columbia Dean of Human Environmental Sciences Bea Smith; former chair of UMC's Faculty Senate Rob Logan; President's Extension Advisory Council Chairwoman Kay Roberts; Clair Elsberry, special assistant to Sen. Jack Danforth; Don Lucietta, a farmer from Lamar; and Paul Wilson of Shelbyville, a member of the President's Advisory Council.

The task force did not reach complete agreement on a proposed reporting relationship of the director of extension. Some members urged that the director report to the UMC chancellor and the UM president. Others favored a direct reporting relationship to the president. A compromise recommendation states that the director of extension "should be located at UMC and should report through the chancellors to the president."

From June to September, the task force met for two days of deliberations on each of four occasions. It consulted with Ron Powers, interim director of University Extension; Tony Rickard,

president of the UM Extension Association; and Joseph Coates, president of Coates & Jarrett, Inc., a Washington, D.C., firm dedicated to research of the future.

In a vision statement created to guide its deliberations, the task force stated:

- The Missouri extension system will be a national model for extension over the next five, 10 and 20 years. Innovative services will emphasize the delivery of knowledge to all citizens through modern information technology.

continued on page 6

In This Issue

- 2 Insurance premiums to go up in 1993
- 3 Faculty workload policy approved
- 3 McGill answers questions on health care

Medical and dental premiums will increase in 1993

Faced with rising health care costs and escalating medical claims, the Board of Curators has approved a plan to increase medical premiums paid by UM System employees.

The plan, which becomes effective Jan. 1, 1993, calls for a 30 percent increase in medical insurance premiums and a 35 percent increase in dental insurance premiums. The medical increases are the first since 1991 and the dental increases are the first since 1984.

"Despite projections of an 18 percent increase in costs for the University's self-insured medical program in 1992, we decided not to ask the board to raise premiums last year because of the lack of faculty and staff salary increases," said Jim McGill, UM System vice president for administrative affairs.

"The University has been covering the added costs from reserves and from temporary supplemental payments to the medical program," said McGill. "The medical premium increase of 30 percent for calendar year 1993 is in effect a two-year increase."

The University uses cost-containment techniques, such as encouraging the use of preferred medical providers. Employees pay one third of the cost of medical premiums for the basic \$250 deductible plan, with the University picking up the rest.

To pay operating costs of the dental plan the University has been drawing on a reserve that had been accumulated in the early 1980s. Future increases in costs will have to be covered by adjusting dental premiums.

Administrators ask for employees' help to reduce UM's rising costs for health care insurance plans

Nationally, health care costs are expected to rise much faster than inflation—15-18 percent per year over the next five years—UM System Vice President for Administrative Affairs Jim McGill recently told the UM Board of Curators.

In 1992, the UM System will process \$39 million in medical claims, up from \$20.7 million in 1987. If costs continue to escalate at this rate, McGill explained, the annual bill for the current health care plan could reach \$80 million by 1997. The University's share of that cost would be about \$54 million. The increased costs would be the equivalent of an eight percent pay increase for all faculty and staff over a five-year period.

"The issue is what we are going to do about the increase in costs so that \$30 to \$35 million doesn't get chewed up in the next five years just to cover the cost of inflation in medical costs," said McGill.

University officials plan to discuss the extent and urgency of the health insurance problem with employees in the next few months. Employees will have an opportunity to hear how this issue will affect their pocketbooks and discuss their ideas for solving the problem.

The University also plans to ask the third party administrator who pays UM claims, General American, and other experts, for advice about possible options.

McGill said several possible cost-cutting measures are available to the University:

Revise the current plan:

- Index deductibles and co-payments to inflation. (Currently these are based on fixed amounts.)
- Cut back on the comprehensiveness of the coverage, orienting the plan more to major risk.

- Place more emphasis on wellness programs.
- Tie the amount of deductibles to salaries.

Prescription drugs:

While not a major part of UM's overall costs, only six to seven percent, this component of medical claims is rising rapidly. Suggestions for cutting these costs usually involve restricting reimbursements for prescription drugs to a few selected suppliers. For example, the University might require employees who desire full reimbursement for drug costs to buy their drugs from a consortium that purchases prescription drugs in volume.

Mental health and substance abuse:

This represents only eight to nine percent of the University's plan, but costs for these claims are escalating. The University might contract out for these services.

More managed care:

While the University currently uses preferred provider organizations and health maintenance organizations, it will consider moving toward more aggressive gate-keeping mechanisms. This would mean primary care providers would be the mechanism by which an employee would obtain the services of specialists or receive specialized procedures.

McGill told the Board that the University will consider input from employees and then report to the Board next spring on its recommendations for reducing anticipated inflationary increases in medical insurance costs.

Russell travels Missouri to discuss admissions standards

University of Missouri President George Russell on Nov. 24 in Jefferson City completed a series of 15 visits throughout the state to discuss changes in freshman course requirements approved last summer by the Board of Curators.

When the Board of Curators approved the changes in June, Russell arranged to make fall visits to each of the 10 districts designated by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

In response to additional requests, the list of meeting sites was expanded to 15. Admissions officers from the four campuses also conducted eight statewide meetings with school counselors in September, at which the new requirements were discussed in detail.

Russell met with hundreds of interested teachers, parents, legislators and school board members in Sikeston (Sept. 3), Mountain Grove (Sept. 8), St. James (Oct. 5), Clinton (Oct. 6), Savannah (Oct. 7), St. Louis County/Parkway South (Oct. 12), Hannibal (Oct. 14), Republic (Oct. 15), Kansas City/Central High School (Nov. 2), Independence (Nov. 5), Carrollton (Nov. 16), St. Louis City/Forest Park Community College (Nov. 17), Macon (Nov. 18), Lake Ozark (Nov. 23) and Jefferson City (Nov. 24).

Russell said that, while he was impressed with the constructive response to the changes and the enthusiasm for the concept expressed by school administrators, teachers and parents,



he was also persuaded that additional flexibility would be advisable.

The policy was first modified to take full effect in the fall of 1997. The original policy called for phasing in various requirements each year through 1996, but officials suggested that administrative problems would be reduced with a "one-time" effective date.

The requirements that are effective in fall, 1997:

- 4 units of English (Unchanged)
- 4 units of Mathematics (Up 1)
- 3 units of Science (Up 1)
- 3 units of Social Studies (Up 1)
- 1 unit of Fine Arts (Unchanged)
- 2 units of Foreign Language (Up 2)

The former three units of electives have been removed, resulting in an increase from 15 to 17 required units.

Russell recommended and the Board of Curators in October approved a second modification to the policy. It allows appropriate foreign language, science and mathematics credits taken at the junior high or middle school level to be counted in meeting the new admission requirements.

The revised policies are being reprinted and will be distributed in December to school administrators, counselors, board members and other interested parties.

Concerns were also expressed by advocates of vocational agriculture, who argued that such coursework might suffer with the greater number of units to be required for admission in 1997. In response, Russell reported that the University is studying such curricula to determine whether portions might be applied to satisfaction of the new admission requirements. A related proposal may be taken to the Curators in

continued on page 5

McGill answers questions on UM medical care issues

The following is an interview with James McGill, UM System vice president for administrative affairs.

Q. Why are medical care costs going up?

A. This is not a problem unique to the University of Missouri or higher education generally. Nationally, health care costs are increasing 18-20 percent each year. This is the experience of Big Ten universities that we monitor. It is also true in the private sector, where General Motors, for example, reports spending more than \$900 in health care costs for each new car it produces.

There are many reasons for the trend. More people are taking advantage of the excellent health care available in this country. Advances in medical technology have made highly effective but expensive forms of treatment available to patients on a routine basis.

Because many patients cannot afford to pay for their health care, health care providers have had to resort to cost-shifting, or passing along these unreimbursed costs to patients who can afford to pay. All these factors cause medical costs to go up.

Q. What has the University been doing to keep costs down?

A. The University and its employees already do many things to contain costs. For example, we routinely conduct utilization reviews, require prior approval for proposed surgical procedures, obtain second medical opinions and make use of health maintenance and preferred provider organizations, which provide health delivery systems for employees at reduced rates.

These measures have helped hold costs down in the past, but won't hold down future cost increases. We will have to do more.

Q. What are some cost-reduction options?

A. If we were to stay with the current basic design of our medical insurance program,



James McGill

there are a number of possibilities that result in reducing the scope of the benefit program somewhat.

—We could increase the amount of the deductibles for individuals and families, or lower the percentage of costs paid by the University after the deductible limits are reached. In effect that would mean that employees would pay more of their costs.

—Another option is to index deductibles and co-payments to inflation so they rise automatically. A variation of this idea would tie deductibles to salaries, which means employees with higher salaries would have higher deductibles.

—We could impose tighter limits on the amount the University would pay for psychiatric and mental health care, and treatment for drug abuse.

—We could stop paying for prescription drugs, or put higher deductibles or co-payments on them. We could revise the focus of the University's plan to cover major financial risk rather than to provide coverage of initial costs as it now does.

Q. Are there other possibilities?

A. Yes, we need to consider extending and encouraging more managed health care. We have some elements of managed health care now.

The University has health maintenance organizations (HMOs) in Kansas City and St. Louis to serve our employees there. An employee who signs up for the HMO option agrees to use the physicians and medical facilities provided by the HMO. In return, the employee benefits from lower costs on deductibles and co-payments or, in some cases, no deductibles at all.

The HMOs also offer strong wellness programs which emphasize preventive medicine. In all four campus locations we have agreements with physicians and hospitals which offer discounted rates for medical care, but don't really "manage" care like HMOs.

Q. What are the implications of increased reliance on managed care?

A. These arrangements can result in considerable reductions in costs both to the University and to employees. Employees choosing to use "non-managed" sources of medical care may have to pay more of their cost.

Q. How will the University reach a decision on the shape of future health care programs?

A. No decisions have been made yet on what to do. Over the next 60 to 90 days we will study programs used by other universities and private industry, and solicit input from administrators and employees of the University.

We will be available to talk with campus organizations to get employees' ideas and opinions. Decisions will be made by summer 1993, so that the changes can be made by January 1994.

This is a complex issue, and two-way communication is important if we are to design a program of health care that best meets employee needs at a reasonable cost.



John Lichtenegger



Cynthia Thompson

Board re-elects Lichtenegger president

John Lichtenegger, a lawyer from Jackson, was elected Dec. 4 to a second term as president of the Board of Curators. In addition to practicing law with the firm of Lichtenegger, Knowlan, Phillips & Ellis, he farms. Lichtenegger holds a bachelor's degree in political science and a law degree from MU.

Cynthia Bramlett Thompson, vice president for human resources of the GR Group in St. Louis, was elected vice president. The GR Group is a transportation products and services company that designs and manufactures transportation equipment, equipment systems and component parts. Thompson holds a bachelor of general studies from the University of Michigan, a master's degree in human nutrition from Michigan State University and a master's degree in business administration from Washington University.

Faculty workload policy approved

A faculty workload policy specifying an "average instructional responsibility" of nine credit hours was approved by the Board of Curators at its December meeting.

The policy complies with major principles

approved by the Intercampus Faculty Council, including the need to recognize variation among academic units and to aggregate workload data.

The approved policy specifies that each department/division have on file in the office of the chief campus academic

officer an approved workload model that specifies types of faculty assignments and percent of effort devoted to each.

The workload policy also indicates that regular faculty are expected to work full-time in research,

teaching and service. It states that the teaching load for individual faculty members should reflect the member's research funding, time devoted to individual instruction and advising of students, administrative duties and service assignments.

Curators question effectiveness of C-Base testing

The Board of Curators spent the bulk of its meeting Dec. 3-4 discussing the merits of College BASE, the general education assessment test mandated by the board in 1991.

Across the UM System, 9,794 students took the test in fall 1991 and winter 1992. The exam has an overall score for general education and subscores in English, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies. The Rolla, Kansas City and Columbia campuses were significantly above the national average score; the St. Louis campus scored at virtually the national average.

Richard Wallace, UM System vice president for academic affairs, said the faculty and administration have serious questions about how C-Base is achieving its goals, particularly in the area of student advisement.

Wallace read from a letter from Dr. Lois Pierce of UM-St. Louis, stating the Intercampus Faculty Council's position on the assessment test. Pierce wrote: "With the C-Base, we have reached an unhappy medium. Most students have completed their general education requirements by the time they are tested, a point too late to use the information on the C-Base for advising."

The IFC letter said that if students had already passed required college-level courses, asking them to repeat those courses because of C-Base results would indicate the UM System places more weight on the assessment test than on a professor's ability to assign meaningful grades.

Curator John C. "Woody" Cozad of Platte City, a supporter of assessment, said the test had not been given a chance to succeed.

"As of yet, we have not attempted to use C-Base for its chief purpose — to sit down with a student and see how he's done and where he needs to improve," Cozad said. "I would like to see this test get a fair chance to do what it was intended to do."

board to realize the back part of the process isn't working. It doesn't matter if you have the best, most unbiased test in the world, if the advising process isn't working."

Patterson also suggested that the University develop an orientation program to go with the test, and she recommended that the members of the Board of Curators take the test in order to understand students' complaints.

except black students were at or above the national average for C-Base. Cozad, however, said this is not evidence that C-Base is biased against blacks, but rather that the division of test takers by race disguises socioeconomic disadvantages that explain differences in test scores among races.

"When blacks score lower than whites, we say the test is culturally biased," Cozad said.

C-Base Results

Rolla:	368
Columbia:	329
Kansas City:	324
St. Louis:	29
National Average:	300

"If we have poor advising and a good test, we'll still end up with poor advising. We have to determine the best time to give the test, if the primary goal is advising. Then we have to direct more money toward advising if necessary, even if it means taking it from lower priority sources."

Cozad and Board President John P. Lichtenegger of Jackson said a lack of cooperation from campus administration and faculty have kept C-Base from becoming a useful advisement tool.

"Leadership on campuses has dropped the ball on the issue of advising," Lichtenegger said. "The tests could have been given earlier for advisement purposes. That option is available to the campuses."

Stephanie Patterson of UMC, the student representative to the board, said the curators should concentrate on improving the student advisement process regardless of C-Base.

"That process is not up to speed," she said. "I challenge the

UM System President George A. Russell agreed that advisement has to be improved on all four campuses, and he said he has already begun discussions with chancellors on the subject.

"If we have poor advising and a good test, we'll still end up with poor advising," he said. "We have to determine the best time to give the test, if the primary goal is advising. Then we have to direct more money toward advising if necessary, even if it means taking it from lower priority sources."

Cozad confronted two more criticisms of C-Base, that C-Base is ethnically biased, and that C-Base is not worth its cost.

Wallace's report had noted that all groups taking the test

"But if the culture is biased, an unbiased test will show the bias in the culture. If there's something wrong with the culture, the test should show it, and it does."

Finally, Cozad said, eliminating C-Base might in the long run cost the University far more than it would save, because the General Assembly and Missouri voters are demanding accountability from higher education.

"If we abolish this test because of resistance from the administration or faculty, that message will not be lost on the taxpayers and the legislature," Cozad said. "If it succeeds, it can be our ally; if it does not succeed, we can get rid of it."

UMSL and Washington U. to offer cooperative engineering program

The UM System Board of Curators, in its Dec. 4 session, unanimously authorized President George A. Russell to negotiate an agreement with Washington University to provide undergraduate engineering education in St. Louis.

Details of the proposed five-year agreement, which would replace the cooperative program between UM-St. Louis and UMR-Rolla, are not final, although some major terms have been set. The costs of facilities for engineering students would have been prohibitive, Russell said, without the pact, which allows UMSL students to learn in Washington University's existing labs.

"The cost of a single laboratory could be more than a million dollars," Russell said. "Indeed, Washington University estimates the replacement costs

of just the equipment necessary for the electrical and mechanical engineering laboratories to be in the range of \$11 million to \$13 million.

"Given the terms of the proposed agreement with Washington University, we can avoid both of these investments."

UMSL Chancellor Blanche Touhill and UMR Chancellor John Park both expressed support for the agreement.

"I believe Rolla could do an excellent job with the same operating costs as Washington University, but operating costs are not the issue," Park said. "The issue is the cost of laboratories, and I'm supportive of the agreement for that reason."

Russell said the pact will allow the University to re-examine the need for public undergraduate engineering education in St. Louis at the end of five years.

"At the end of the first five

years of this program, the University will have made no long-term, expensive investments and will be in a position to determine the future of the program with much better information about the magnitude of the need in St. Louis," he said. "If the enrollment is low at the start and grows in an orderly manner, it will be reasonably easy to enter another phase of the program on a timely basis."

The finished contract between the UM System and Washington University is still pending, but the major terms of the agreement approved by the curators are:

- UMSL and Washington University will jointly offer and award bachelor's degrees in electrical and mechanical engineering.
- UMSL faculty will teach non-engineering courses on the St. Louis campus, and WU faculty will teach engineering courses and laboratories.

- The term of the agreement is five years, starting in the fall semester of 1993.

- UMSL and WU will cooperate in providing advisement and other student support, including library and computer services.

- WU will be responsible for seeking accreditation for the program. UMSL will compensate WU for expenses related to accreditation up to \$20,000.

- The curricular and admissions requirements will be determined jointly by UMSL and WU.

- UMSL will set annual limits on enrollment in order to restrict total expenses (payments to WU plus UMSL's costs) to available revenues (student fees plus state appropriation and other support provided by St. Louis businesses).

- The UM System will pay WU in accord with a schedule that reflects headcount enrollment and student credit hours.

Program will pay graduates' tuition to UM

The Believers' Program, through which benefactors Gerald and Glenda Greenwald have offered to help pay college expenses for 50 students now in University City schools, has expanded its scope through an agreement with the University of Missouri, with campuses in St. Louis, Columbia, Kansas City and Rolla.

Gerald Greenwald, former vice chairman of Chrysler Corp., is now president of Olympia & York Developments, Ltd. He is a native of St. Louis and attended University City schools, as did his wife.

The pact, signed by the Greenwalds and UM President George Russell Nov. 7, assures program participants that all tuition and fees will be paid by the Greenwald Foundation for successful program participants for four years of undergraduate study. The Greenwalds will guarantee tuition and fees at the time of freshman registration (fall 1995), and the UM System will absorb any fee increases for Believers on their campuses from 1995 until spring of 1999.

"The University of Missouri is honored to play a small part in helping to assure that the Greenwalds' generosity pays the greatest possible dividends for Missouri and for the youngsters involved in this bold program," UM President Russell said. "Education will decide whether Mis-



Odell Mitchell Jr./St. Louis Post-Dispatch

souri and these young citizens of our state will compete and thrive in the global marketplace."

Russell said the agreement with the University also will involve professors, academic advisers and experts in admissions and financial-aid policies, who will help students and families in making academic plans.

The program encourages students and their parents through financing civic work, meetings, college trips, field trips and special

materials—as well as by offering to put children through four years of trade school or college. (The Greenwalds will help any of the 50 students who are enrolled in any public or private college or trade school in Missouri approved by the Greenwald Foundation.)

"We want to offer financial encouragement and personal support to young people who can make immeasurable positive contributions to our society in the years to come," the Greenwalds

said. "We invite others to share the satisfaction we have found in encouraging enterprise and intellectual achievement by reinvesting in priceless human resources that may otherwise be lost or misdirected."

The 50 youngsters selected for the program were among 135 fifth graders with financial need who applied. Selections were based on interviews with the students and their parents and on standardized academic test score results. All 50, who entered 10th grade this fall, remain in the program, although several have moved out of the state. The Greenwalds have agreed to support those who have been obliged to move out of the school district.

Gerald Greenwald emphasized that while the Believers' Program offers encouragement, the students and their parents do the real work. "We care about them, and we want them to be winners," he said. "But the students are responsible to themselves to secure the opportunities offered by education. We're proud of what they and their parents are accomplishing."

Gerald Sandweiss, appointed director of the program by the Greenwalds, serves as motivator, counselor, friend and supporter for the students and their parents. Sandweiss is a former teacher and assistant superintendent in the Ritenour School District.

continued from page 2

January, Russell said.

Russell also emphasized that the original policy allows exceptions for otherwise qualified students to whom some required courses may not be available.

The University is awaiting further word from the Coordinating Board for Higher Education concerning classifications of institutions of higher education according to selectivity of admissions policies. Current combinations of class rank and national test score percentiles will continue to apply, Russell said. "If we make any changes there, we want to avoid confusion by making them in conjunction with the Coordinating Board," Russell told his audiences.

He said that the support and cooperation of Missourians are appreciated "as we work together to give our children and grandchildren the opportunities that only the highest quality education can provide. Theirs will be a world far different from ours and they deserve any advantage we can give them in a highly competitive, global environment."

Caruso outlines plans for consolidating three Columbia computing centers

Under the direction of the President's Advisory Committee on Computing, the University is considering alternatives for consolidating the three large IBM-based data centers in Columbia.

Ralph Caruso, UM's chief information officer, said the three data centers being considered for consolidation are the UM System Central Computing Facility (CCF), used for University-wide corporate systems and research; MU's Campus Computer Center (CC), used for campus instruction and research; and the Hospital Information Service (HIS), which provides Hospital Administrative Systems and patient care support for University Hospital and Clinics.

Caruso said the focus of the study is on consolidating hardware and software operated by University employees. "The University is not contemplating third-party management of operations," he said.

After meeting Nov. 16, the President's Advisory Committee on Computing forwarded the following consolidation plan to President Russell. First, the committee recommends the University upgrade the hospital's central processing unit and data storing devices to take care of their current needs. Second, they recommended the tape technology at the central computing facility be

upgraded in order to become more efficient and prepare for consolidation.

In addition, the committee said the necessary improvements should be made to the telecommunication building on the Columbia campus for power, air conditioning and uninterrupted power supply. Caruso said this step would require at least four to five months lead time. He said the committee expects to review the next steps toward consolidation in March 1993.

Members of the President's Advisory Committee on Computing are:

Joseph Doerr, vice chancellor for administrative affairs, UMKC; Allen Hahn, research investigator, Dalton Research Center, UMC; Barbara Hale, professor of physics, UMR; Robert Logan, associate professor, editorial department, UMC; Jerrold Siegal, professor of mathematics, UMSL; Joyce Mitchell, associate professor, medical informatics, UMC; Patrick Morton, associate director, Hospital & Clinics, UMC; and Sashi Satpathy, assistant professor, physics, UMC.

Advisors to the committee are: Kenneth Toler, director of central computing facility, UM System; James Goodman, assistant director, Hospital & Clinics, UMC; and Bill Plummer, associate vice chancellor for computing, UMC.

University Extension cooperates in Thomas Hill mine project

Effort aimed at easing economic impact on area from mine closing

University Extension is a partner in a project to stabilize and improve the regional economy of north central Missouri through the Thomas Hill Development Center in Moberly. The purpose of the project is to lessen the economic impact of the closing of the Thomas Hill mine and the loss of about 200 jobs by 1995.

Rex Campbell, extension rural sociology specialist at UMC, is project coordinator. Partners in the project are Associated Electric Cooperatives Inc.; the Macon, Boone and Howard electric cooperatives; and the state Department of Economic Development.

Project work will be divided into three categories:

- Research and development to identify areas of growth and expansion best suited to the area's infrastructure, employee base and geographic location. Campbell will direct this section.

- Business and economic development to recruit and create new businesses and industries and assist current businesses. Mark Woodson of Associated Electric is in charge of this section.

- Community-based programs to support home-based businesses, develop tourism, rehabilitate and promote local busi-



ness districts, and develop career workshops and educational opportunities. Jane Vanderham of Macon Rural Electric Cooperative will head this section.

The three divisions will serve as an executive committee for the project. The targeted area for help includes Randolph, Macon, Chariton and Howard counties and the northern part of Boone County.

Campbell says the planning phase began in September and will take about six months. The technical implementation phase will begin next fall. A community needs survey of businesses,

governmental entities, civic groups and individuals will assess the changing technological needs of specific industries and inventory the area's resources. A technical work group will develop short- and long-range economic development plans.

Campbell says the driving force in today's economy is not in raw material conversion but in value-added process manufacturing, such as food processing. Also, most new jobs are created in new and existing small businesses.

The project will seek funding from a variety of sources. "This is a unique opportunity for public and private sectors to work together for the benefit of the Thomas Hill area," Campbell says. "We're looking forward to bringing together the talents of our respective organizations for job creation in this area."

University Extension staff involved in the project: Johanna Reed Adams, NE community development specialist; Chris Bouchard, CM business and industry specialist; Brady Deaton, social sciences unit leader in the UMC College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; Tom Henderson, community resource development program director; Ray Lenzi, extension community development specialist at UMC; and Ray Marshall, NE business and industry specialist.

Task force makes recommendations on future of UE

continued from front cover

- Through revitalized local extension councils, the citizens of Missouri will be partners with the University in an information revolution.
- Extension will be dedicated to enhancing Missouri's economic future and quality of life.
- Extension is the gateway for all Missouri citizens to the University of Missouri. Extension will deliver and share knowledge and problem-solving resources with people throughout the state. The entire talent base of the University will be available through extension.
- Extension will cooperate with other education systems and networks in the

distribution of knowledge.

- Missouri's extension system will link the wealth of human knowledge with the educational needs of Missouri's citizens through integrated modern technology systems.
- Community Telecommunication Resource Centers will link all citizens to the nation's resources.

The task force also responded to several other questions from President Russell concerning the future of extension.

In addition to changes in administrative structure, the task force recommended the following:

- Empower the county councils and increase the authority and responsibility of the county

program director and the county councils.

- Broaden the base of the county councils.
- Set minimum qualifications for county program directors and provide needed training to assure necessary levels of technical and managerial proficiency.
- Facilitate the nomination, election, organization, planning and operation of county councils to assure effective linkages between University Extension and county needs.
- Survey and use available resources from appropriate organizations and agencies to reduce program duplication and improve efficiency.

Doctoral program in nursing approved

After receiving formal approval from the Board of Curators in October, the University will move forward with revised plans to establish a cooperative doctoral program in nursing at the Columbia, Kansas City and St. Louis campuses. The proposal now goes back to the state's Coordinating Board for Higher Education for approval.

The curators first approved a resolution in June 1991 to create the program and forwarded the proposal to the CBHE. In December 1991, UM

President George Russell requested that the CBHE suspend its review pending answers to questions of funding, priority and a clearer definition of need.

"The priority on each campus is such that funding will be provided out of present campus resources at the expense of programs of lower priority," Russell told the Board.

University officials decided the proposal should be implemented but should be modified to add an option at the doctoral level in order to fulfill two purposes.

First, as the original proposal stated, there is a growing need for PhD-trained nurses to assume faculty and research positions in academic settings, government and private research institutions. Second, there is a growing need for nurses trained at the doctoral level to assume management and leadership positions related to the supervision, coordination and delivery of nursing and other health care services. The addendum approved by the curators in October proposes the establishment of a doctorate in nursing to meet the second need.

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