

Officials to negotiate contract on chemical

In a meeting Friday the curators authorized UM officials to negotiate a contract with Merck and Co., an international pharmaceutical firm, to market a chemical called Kastrin that will sterilize male animals.

The safe chemical agent for animal sterilization or castration was developed after eight years of research by Mostafa Fahim, a UMC professor of obstetrics and gynecology who specializes in reproductive biology. Dr. Fahim previously introduced ultrasound as a means of male birth control in animals and humans.

With the use of Kastrin, which is injected into a male animal's testicles, it no longer may be necessary to sterilize male livestock, dogs and cats by surgery.

The chemical can be administered in a small dose, which renders the animal sterile but doesn't interfere with the production of the male hormone testosterone, Dr. Fahim says. Testosterone not only gives a male animal his sex drive but also regulates normal male temperament and growth patterns. In a larger dose, the chemical will castrate the animal, shrinking his testes and making him both sterile and incapable of manufacturing male hormones.

Merck and Co., has proposed to pay UM a lump sum for the patent rights on Kastrin to market the product within two years for use on pets and livestock. In addition, UM would receive an annual royalty on the sales. Under UM's patent regulations, Dr.

Fahim also will receive a share of the Kastrin earnings. He plans to use his share for further research aimed at human use of Kastrin.

The UMC professor believes the chemical will be a particular boon to cattle and pig breeders.

Cattle sterilized with Kastrin, Dr. Fahim says, produce 10 percent more lean meat than those whose testes are removed or chemically shrunk. On the other hand, he adds, chemically castrating the pig is beneficial because testosterone makes pork meat smell bad.

Also castration with knives in the field or barnyard has resulted, Dr. Fahim says, "in a 7 to 8 percent mortality rate in pigs, and a 5 to 6 percent rate in cattle." Those financial losses can be eliminated, he says, because the chance of infection is less with injections.

Neutering pets also will be much less expensive and easy to accomplish, the researcher says. With Kastrin a veterinarian could neuter 20 dogs or cats in the time it would take to surgically castrate one animal. The simplicity of using Kastrin may help solve the problem of unwanted pets.

Dr. Fahim says Kastrin is safer than previously used chemical sterilizers because it stays in the testes and does not affect other vital organs as did other chemical compounds tested.

In future research, Dr. Fahim hopes to learn if Kastrin can be effective against cancer of the



Mostafa Fahim, a UMC professor of obstetrics and gynecology, works in his lab.

prostate. The theory, he says, is that Kastrin may shrink cancered prostate glands, thus eliminating the necessity of removing the testicles. Kastrin could become a substitute for the surgical vasectomy and could also prove effective in treating prostatitis, the

inflammation of the prostate.

Dr. Fahim received technical assistance during his research from several colleagues in UMC's School of Medicine and College of Veterinary Medicine, and UM system's Sinclair Research Farm.

Olson to resume Weldon Springs discussions

At a meeting in Columbia Friday, the UM Board of Curators gave President James C. Olson the authorization to reopen negotiations with the Missouri Department of Conservation on the possible sale of all or part of the 8,000 acre Weldon Springs property in St. Charles County.

In addition, the board charged the president with the responsibility of exploring all possible uses of the property.

Members of the board heard details of a four-part plan providing for research, education and public service at the University-owned land. The plan, developed by a 13-member committee drawn from all four UM

campuses, features excavation of archaeological sites, research centers for ecological and biological study and an outdoor recreation training facility.

The committee's recommendations, according to its report, are designed to take advantage of the unique features of the 8,000-acre Weldon Spring tract.

"The consideration by this committee of the geographical, cultural and historical factors of the Weldon Spring site has yielded four major programs which we believe could not be as easily, or as inexpensively, accomplished at any other location in the state," the report says.

The major recommendations:

- An environmental-cultural center—provides for archaeological excavations and exhibitions of the pre-industrial history of the St. Louis area;
- An animal behavior study center—incorporating the St. Louis Zoo breeding center for endangered species, a primate colony and a natural preserve of species native to the site;
- An ecological research center—for the study of a riverine environment;
- A youth agency training

center—providing a place for camping, outdoor living and environmental studies for youth and a laboratory facility for training youth leaders.

Also included in the plan is the appointment of an interim director to study long-range development possibilities and to investigate sources of funding.

Estimated cost of this first phase is \$80,000 which includes salaries of the interim director and staff and operating expenses.

The committee was appointed in September 1977 by UM President James C. Olson after the curators asked the University administration to study possible educational uses of the property and the possibilities of

financing such uses.

In its discussion of costs and suggested sources of funding, the committee emphasized that its estimates were tentative, dependent on how much of the plan was accepted and on how completely and rapidly programs are developed.

The recommended timetable is a 10-year period and the total estimated cost, based on acceptance of the entire plan and total development, is \$13 million.

Funding, according to the report, could come from federal and state agencies, users' fees, subscriptions, foundations, development funds and general operating funds from the University.

Poehlman to receive top award

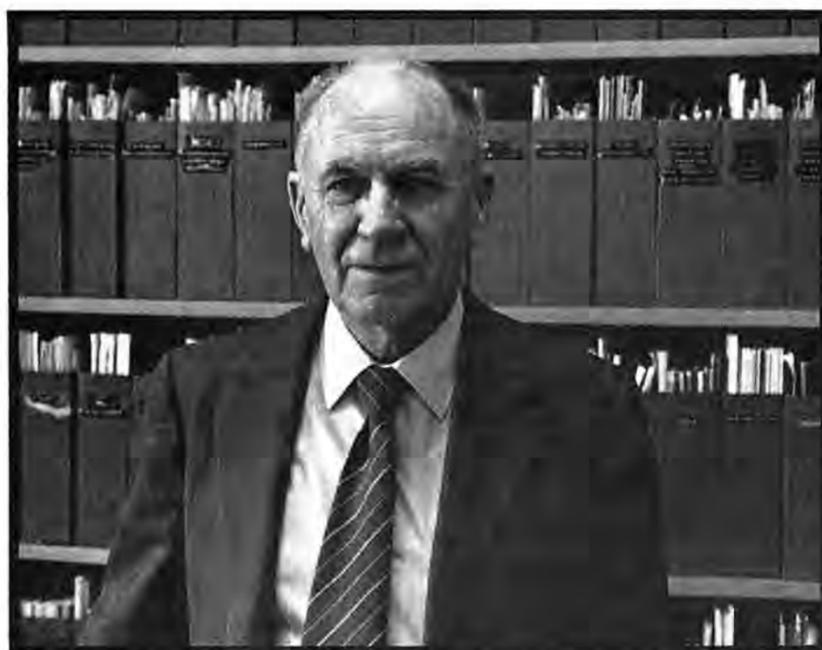
A UMC agronomy professor, who has successfully combined careers in teaching, research and international agriculture, has been selected to receive the UM system's 1978 Thomas Jefferson Award.

The announcement was made Friday by President James C. Olson at the Board of Curators meeting.

A member of the UMC faculty since 1936, Dr. J. Milton Poehlman's accomplishments include the development of 18 new and improved varieties of barley, oats, wheat and rice; superior teaching of undergraduates resulting in the writing of two internationally used textbooks; and serving as a consultant on agricultural programs to foreign countries.

The annual award, which includes a check of \$500 to the honoree, was initiated in 1967 through a gift from the Earll McConnell Foundation. Awardees are chosen for their exemplification of the principles and ideals of Thomas Jefferson. Presentation will be made at 3 p.m. April 13 in the Alumni Lounge of UMC's Memorial Union.

The holder of more than 10 other awards and honors, Dr. Poehlman was chosen for the Jefferson Award by a



J. Milton Poehlman, a UMC professor of agronomy, will receive the 1978 Thomas Jefferson Award on April 13.

four-campus committee because of his "wide range of interest in education, people, culture, political science, charity and exploration, as well as concern for his fellow man." The characteristics parallel many of Jefferson's.

A native of Macon, Mo., Dr. Poehlman received a B.S. degree in 1931 and a Ph.D. in botany in 1936 from UMC. He was a recipient of the Korean Republic's office of rural

development medal of gratitude in 1976.

Members of the selection committee included A. G. Unklesbay, UMC system vice president for administration; Alan G. Krasnoff, UMSL professor of psychology; Donald Oster, UMR assistant professor of history; Dallas K. Meyer, UMC professor of physiology and Herwig G. Zauchenberger, UMKC professor of foreign languages.

Bidding to begin on athletic project

The curators approved advertising for bids for constructing the first step of a planned two-phase improvement to the athletic dressing room at the football practice fields on the Columbia campus.

Phase one of the project calls for constructing an 80x100 foot metal frame building next to the present facility at an estimated cost of \$260,000.

The first phase is expected to be completed by next Aug. 1.

Phase two of the project, which will include remodeling the existing structure, the addition of a locker room for women and possibly a connecting corridor to the metal building, will not begin before the end of the 1978 football season. Architects Partnership, Inc., of Columbia, previously retained for the athletic facility project, will prepare final plans and specifications for that work. Phase two is expected to cost \$200,000.

Both phases will be financed entirely by intercollegiate athletic funds. No state appropriations will be involved.

Jobs

The following administrative, professional and academic vacancies were listed with *Spectrum* as of March 22, 1978:

UMC: instructors, editorial, child health, physical education, (2), hospital school, medicine, social work; assistant professors, child health, editorial (2), horticulture, library science, mechanical/aerospace engineering (2), medicine, political science, social work, surgery;

Librarian I (3); librarian II (1); Librarian III, (2); law librarian; associate professors, library science, medicine, PAVTE, surgery; professor, veterinary medicine (2), animal husbandry.

Assistant coordinator, Missouri Kidney Program; clinical specialist; health physicist; information spec.; reactor mgr.; reactor physicist; sr. manuscript spec.; sr. methods & procedure analyst; sr. research spec.;

UMR: associate research engineer, electrical engineering.

UMC Med Center: Administrative associate I; buyer; facilities analyst; fiscal analyst; head nurse (4); medical records administrator; nurse practitioner; reg. medical technologist; staff nurse (28);

UMSL: Sr. information spec.; supervisor, accounting services;

UMKC: Assistant dean of students; coordinator, student financial aids; student services coordinator/counselor.

Board OKs final plans for UMKC projects

Final plans for parking lots and recreational projects at the Kansas City campus were approved by the Board of Curators.

The recreational area facilities, to be built near 48th St. and Rockhill Rd., will include five handball-racquetball courts housed in a building complete with dressing rooms, heating and air-conditioning. In addition, there will be six outdoor tennis courts and two multipurpose intramural fields.

Budget guidelines for '79-80 approved

The board approved guidelines Friday for preliminary planning of UM's request for 1979-80 state appropriations.

Included in the guidelines is the authority to consider an increase in student fees and the reallocation of 1.5 percent of the base operating budget, if additional funds are needed to meet inflation and to fund higher priority items. Both these methods were used in planning the 1978-79 state request, now before the General Assembly.

The approved guidelines will go to the campuses and all central administration operating units for the actual development of budget proposals. The proposals later will be submitted to President James C. Olson and his staff for final consideration before the budget is submitted for final board approval late this summer or early fall.

The request must be submitted to the state by Oct. 1.

Highlights of the guidelines include:

- For salary and wages, an amount will be included to keep pace with the cost of living and to recognize merit for faculty and staff. UM also will continue efforts to regain a higher salary and wage position among Big 8 and Big 10 institutions.
- The request will include funds to meet the inflationary impact on expense and equipment items.
- Funds will be requested to continue UM library improvements.
- Energy conservation measures will be included in funding, but capital items are to be included with the

capital improvements request.

• Funding also will be sought for improving the quality and scope of existing programs and for new programs on a selective basis.

• In the request for the UMC Hospital Funds, items must be ranked in priority and the hospital will be expected to cover 70 percent of the program requirements.

• Funds for capital improvements also must be blended and listed in priority order with the request for operating funds.

Faculty receive emeritus titles

The Board of Curators approved title changes for the following faculty:

UMC: Robert S. Campbell, professor emeritus of forestry, Sept. 1, 1978; Mona E. Dingle, professor emeritus of economics, Sept. 1, 1978; Wilbur R. Enns, professor emeritus of entomology, Sept. 1, 1978; Aubrey D. Hibbard, professor emeritus of horticulture, Sept. 1, 1978;

John F. Lasley, professor emeritus of animal husbandry, Jan. 1, 1979; Walter W. Leighton, Distinguished professor emeritus of mathematics, Sept. 1, 1978; William Q. Loegering, professor emeritus of plant pathology and biological science, Dec. 30, 1977; Edward W. Lowrance, professor emeritus of anatomy, Sept. 1, 1978; Ruth Lutz, professor emeritus of food and nutrition, Jan. 1, 1978;

Fred McKinney, professor emeritus of psychology, Sept. 1, 1978; Fred H. Meinershagen, professor emeritus of

dairy husbandry, March 1, 1978;

Thomas Mills, professor emeritus of music, Jan. 1, 1978; Charles F.

Mitchell, associate professor emeritus of social work, Sept. 1, 1978; Martha E. Nahikian, associate professor

emeritus of nursing, May 16, 1978;

Walter D. Russell, professor emeritus of poultry husbandry, Sept. 1, 1978; Virginia Southwood, associate professor emeritus of social work, Sept. 1, 1978; Stephen F. Whitted, professor

emeritus of agricultural economics, Oct. 1, 1977 and Saul S. Weinberg, professor emeritus of art history and

archaeology, Aug. 31, 1978.

UMR: John P. Govier, professor emeritus of petroleum engineering, Sept. 1, 1978; Harvey H. Grice, professor emeritus of chemical

engineering, Sept. 1, 1978 and Ray E.

Morgan, associate professor emeritus of geology & geophysics, Sept. 1, 1978.

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