

Financial aid requests grow

UM students who plan to seek financial aid for the next academic year should apply now. That's the advice from Allan Purdy, UM system director of student financial aids.

Mr. Purdy pointed out that for the present academic year UM's four campuses received 22,000 applications for student aid, with about 17,000 of those being approved. This is about one-third of the approximately 50,000 students enrolled.

He said the number of applicants for next year is expected to increase by 50 percent to 33,000 students.

"The reason for the anticipated increase in aid requests next year is due to expansion by Congress of various student aid programs to give some help to middle income families," Mr. Purdy said. "Most of the added recipients will receive modest help, but it still will be a big boost in assisting with increasing educational costs."

Mr. Purdy noted that aid dollars available for 1979-80 for UM students will top \$24 million, compared to slightly more than \$19 million for the

current year.

"One of the major problems in eligible students getting aid on time is the limited period in which applications must be processed," Mr. Purdy explained. "An avalanche of applications rolls into the campus student financial aid offices within a few weeks, and so processing pressure is always great. The crush will be even greater for next school year."

Mr. Purdy said evaluation of each financial aid applicant takes into consideration family finances of the student as indicated on the parents' federal income tax form for the previous year.

He noted that financial aid is available through grants, loans and work-study programs, or a combination of the three. The amount of aid a student may receive is based on need and available funds.

"The purpose of student aid," he said, "is to provide financial help between costs of going to school and the amount of money the student and family can provide."

New purchase policy adopted

In a move to save interest costs, the UM system Board of Curators approved a new policy for equipment purchases at UMC Hospital.

Under the policy, UM system treasurer Donald S. Holm, Jr., will have available an initial line of credit with Boone County National Bank in Columbia at an interest rate not to exceed 6 percent annually.

As certain equipment purchases exceeding \$50,000 become necessary for the hospital, the purchases will be made from the loan fund. A maximum five-year repayment schedule is planned.

James R. Buchholz, UM system vice president for administrative affairs,

told the finance committee that the hospital presently finances such acquisitions through leases at annual interest rates far exceeding that in the proposed program.

Mr. Buchholz explained that equipment bought with the loan fund would be of the type useable for a minimum of seven to 10 years. Also, he said, when there is a likelihood of technological obsolescence, leasing will continue to be used.

Although the plan will reduce interest costs, Mr. Holm said it will not mean an increase in equipment spending by the hospital.

Mr. Holm said the new plan is the first phase of a long-range program that is expected to be expanded.

Maternity coverage increased

A proposal to change current medical benefits coverage for maternity for UM system employees was approved by the UM Board of Curators Feb. 23.

The UM administrative

recommendation to amend present coverage is an attempt to comply with new federal regulations.

The amendment calls for maternity to be treated as any other illness. Coverage will include pregnancy, childbirth, recovery and any disability resulting from pregnancy. Abortion will also be included in those instances where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to full term.

The maternity coverage also means that medical benefits payments by employees will be increased for an overall average of 4½ percent annually. UM's contribution also will be raised 4½ percent.

As an example of the increased employee cost, the rate for a staff member with spouse and children will increase from \$23.00 per month to \$24.08 under the \$50 deductible plan. An employee only will pay \$9.42 as opposed to the present \$9.19 rate.

The maternity provision will become effective April 29, 1979.

Emeritus titles

The UM system Board of Curators approved emeritus titles Feb. 23 for the following individuals:

Mary Lee Marksberry, UMKC professor emeritus of education, effective Sept. 1; Mailand R. Strunk, UMR professor emeritus of chemical engineering, effective Sept. 1; Hughes Zenor, UMR professor emeritus of geophysics, effective Sept. 1; and Leslie C. Murphy, UMC associate dean emeritus and professor emeritus of veterinary microbiology, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1979.

Olson to head MASUA

President James C. Olson has been elected president of the Mid-America State Universities Association. He will serve a one-year term.

Purpose of the association is to promote improvement of facilities and programs at member institutions, make unique programs available to students and promote cooperative use of unusual research facilities.

The association sponsors a

foreign scholar program, honors lecture program and traveling scholars program, specifically for doctoral students.

In addition to UM, the members of the association include the universities of Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Colorado State University, Iowa State University, Kansas State University, and Oklahoma State University.

Vice chancellors to manage student affairs, administration

UMKC Chancellor George A. Russell has announced the appointments of Gary E. Widmar as vice chancellor of student affairs and Anthony F. Graziano as vice chancellor of administration.

Dr. Russell made the announcement at the monthly meeting of the UM system Board of Curators on the Kansas City campus.

Dr. Widmar, 42, is currently dean of students at UMKC, and Mr. Graziano, 40, is special assistant to the president and director for institutional research and financial planning at the University of Delaware. Each was selected from a large group of candidates. An intensive national search for both positions was initiated last fall.

Chancellor Russell announced an overall reorganization plan for the campus last summer. The plan is designed to streamline the campus' management structure. The plan calls for consolidation of some 17 administrative departments, presently reporting to the chancellor, under four vice chancellors administering the areas of student affairs, administration, academic affairs, and research and institutional development. The selection process for the latter two positions is still in progress, according to Dr. Russell.

Dr. Widmar, as vice chancellor of student affairs, will be responsible for admissions and records, student life, counseling and testing, financial aid, athletics, placement and student health. In directing the administration area, Mr. Graziano's responsibilities will include UMKC's physical plant, business services, personnel administration, safety and security,

housing and computer facility.

Dr. Widmar has been a member of the UMKC faculty and administrative staff since 1966. He joined the campus as associate dean of students and assistant professor of education. He was promoted to acting dean of students three years later. That appointment was made permanent in September, 1970. He holds an academic appointment as professor of education.

A graduate of Illinois State University, Dr. Widmar subsequently earned a master's degree in education at the University of Illinois and a Ph.D. in higher education administration at Florida State University.

Mr. Graziano has been at the University of Delaware since 1974, and was previously assistant provost there for budget planning and analysis. In his present capacity he is responsible for management planning, administrative support services, organizational analysis, and advises the Delaware president on fiscal matters.

As assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from 1969-74, Mr. Graziano coordinated that campus' conversion from quantitative growth to steady state planning, budgeting, and reallocable decision making. During that period, he developed systems for providing decision making data useable at all levels of university management.

He is an engineering graduate of Carnegie Mellon University.

Dr. Widmar's appointment is effective March 1. Mr. Graziano will begin his duties early in the summer.

Teasdale appoints curator

Gov. Joseph P. Teasdale appointed William G. Cocos Jr. to the nine-member UM system Board of Curators last week. Mr. Cocos is a 47-year-old plumbing contractor from Lemay. When confirmed by the Missouri

Senate, Mr. Cocos will take the place of Curator Barbara Berkmeier, whose term expired on Jan. 1.

Mr. Cocos' term would be until Jan. 1, 1985.

Food service report outlined

A consultant's report on food service operations on the Columbia and Rolla campuses has made several recommendations for improving those services.

In addition, the report recommended that consideration be given to contracting food service operations at UMR to a private vendor, rather than continuing it as a campus-operated service.

The report also suggested—and the suggestion was accepted by UM—that no increase be made in board rates for students for 1979-80. Last December an increase ranging from 2 to 3½ percent in room rates was made for 1979-80.

Those are the highlights of a study made by Douglas C. Osterheld of Douglas Consulting Organization, Madison, Wis., which was outlined Feb. 23 for the physical facilities committee of the UM system Board of Curators. Earlier, some curators had expressed concern about rising room and board rates at UM.

Since 1977 UM has been involved in an evaluation of ways to improve

food services and yet keep costs to students at a minimum. Retaining the consultant to make a study was another step in this continuing evaluation.

James R. Buchholz, UM System vice president for administrative affairs, told the board committee that UM is following the consultant's recommendation to obtain bids for evaluating the possible contracting of food services at UMR for 1979-80. He said bids now are being taken to determine the feasibility of using an outside firm. The bid deadline is Thursday, March 1.

Suggestions offered by the consultant for improving food services at the two campuses included: changing the dining environments; reviewing all possibilities for energy conservation; reducing hours of service and number of serving lines; and making food service facilities more efficient; consolidating all aspects of food services, where possible; reviewing the central stores operation to assure that the most effective methods are being utilized, and improving accounting procedures used.

Jobs

The following administrative, professional and academic vacancies were listed with *Spectrum* as of Feb. 21. Those interested in a position should contact the appropriate academic department or personnel office.

UMC: Coordinator, alumni center; director, office of public information; engineer, Physical Plant (2); manager, campaigns & special projects; reactor operations engineer; scientific programmer/analyst I; sr. accountant; student services coordinator/counselor; systems analyst (3);

UMC Medical Center: Asst. director, personnel; asst. manager, medical records; computer programmer/analyst II (2); head nurse (5); medical records administrator; nurse practitioner; reg. medical technologist; staff nurse (40);

UMR: Asst. director, student financial aids; energy conservation engineer; scientific programmer/analyst II; sr. information specialist; research

aide, Graduate Center for Materials Research; faculty appointments (rank dependent upon qualifications), geological engineering (3); asst./assoc. professor, civil engineering;

UMKC: Admissions counselor;

Olson discusses optometry, religion

President James C. Olson presented a report to the Board of Curators Feb. 23 indicating that the status of federal funding for the proposed School of Optometry at UMSL is uncertain.

Dr. Olson pointed out that the Health Manpower Counsel recently decided not to recommend start-up funding for the program. He said that UM will continue to study the program's future.

In addition, President Olson reported that he does not anticipate asking the state to amend UM's appropriations request for supplementary funds for a department of religious studies at UMC for 1979-80.

McClain appointed to post

Jackie R. McClain, UMC coordinator of affirmative action, has been appointed manager of staff relations and affirmative action for the UM system, effective Thursday, March 1.

Ms. McClain, who has been at UMC since April 1978, holds a juris doctorate from the University of Kansas School of Law.

Union election scheduled on campuses next week

Full-time service and maintenance employees of UM's four campuses will vote in early March on whether to grant the unions appearing on the ballot exclusive recognition.

Exclusive recognition is a term used to indicate that the specified unions, if elected, will speak for all employees in those units.

The election is for all full-time service and maintenance employees to determine by secret ballot if they will be represented exclusively by the unions specified on the ballot.

The question appearing on the ballot reads:

"Do you wish to have International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 2, AFL-CIO, Public Service Employees Local Union 45 and Public Service Employees Local Union 1272, affiliated with Laborers' International Union of North America, AFL-CIO represent you as your exclusive bargaining representative to meet, confer and discuss salaries and other

conditions of employment with the University of Missouri?"

Dates of the election are March 5 at St. Louis, March 6 at Rolla, March 7-8 at Columbia and March 9 at Kansas City.

The Board of Curators in 1966 recognized Laborers' International Union, AFL-CIO, and International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 2 in 1967 to represent employees wanting to be members of a union.

If a majority of employees vote "yes" in the upcoming election, then the form of recognition would change from that covering members only to a form of recognition where the specified unions represent all employees in the unit.

If a majority vote "no," the University will relate directly to employees and their employment units.

The State Board of Mediation will conduct the election. The mediation board determined the categories of employees eligible to vote. Election notices will be posted on all campuses, advising employees of the date, time and place they may vote. All ballots cast on the four campuses will be commingled before the votes are counted.

UMKC establishes new office

A new department charged with centralizing and streamlining UMKC's efforts to communicate with its internal and external publics will become functional on Thursday, March 1.

In making the announcement, Chancellor George A. Russell noted that the new Office of University Communications will consolidate functions formerly provided by UMKC's Offices of Public Information and Alumni and Development Communications.

James M. Zahnd has been appointed acting director of the communications unit, according to Dr. Russell. Mr. Zahnd has served as manager of alumni and development communications on the campus for the past 2½ years. Prior to coming to

UMKC, Mr. Zahnd was director of public relations at Simpson College in Iowa.

The new office's responsibilities will include media liaison, publications, advertising and other public affairs activities.

"The Office of University Communications is not an additional administrative unit," Dr. Russell emphasized, "but rather it is a new unit formed by combining the activities of several areas and using existing personnel to enable us to communicate with our constituents in a more cost-effective manner."

Formation of the unit is part of Dr. Russell's overall reorganization plan for the campus which he announced last summer.

Board approves contract, plans

Award of a construction contract and final plans for two other projects were okayed Feb. 23 during a meeting of the UM system Board of Curators.

Prost Builders, Inc., of Columbia submitted the lowest of two bids received for adding a 20 x 80 foot general storage room onto the UM system Research Reactor facility in Columbia. The firm bid \$248,200. The addition will free up space inside the present building for offices and other uses. The project will be paid for with funds received for reactor services.

Final plans were approved for renovating the auditoriums in Ellis Library and Waters Hall on the Columbia campus.

The Ellis auditorium project calls for installation of a new and larger stage, new lighting, new seats, a projection booth and an outside entrance from the northwest to comply with fire safety codes. The auditorium seats about 250 and is used as a general

classroom. The \$132,000 project will be funded with campus maintenance and safety funds.

The Waters Hall work will include a new stage, recessed ceiling lights, new seats, new public address system, a projection booth and ventilating system. The auditorium seats about 500 and serves as a general classroom. Expected to cost about \$163,000, the project will be financed with campus maintenance funds.

Plans call for both auditorium projects to be completed this summer.

Correction . . .

In the "People" section of the Feb. 9 issue of *Spectrum*, Harvey H. Grice was incorrectly identified as a UMC faculty member. Dr. Grice is a UMR professor emeritus of chemical engineering. *Spectrum* regrets the error.

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