

TWO WIN UMKCRA RECOGNITION AWARDS

By Dale Neuman

For the first time since UMKCRA created its annual awards recognizing the continued contributions of UMKC retirees after they have retired, we have two winners: G. Ross Stephens, Professor Emeritus of Political Science is the retired faculty winner and Leo Sweeney, Assistant Vice-Chancellor for International Student Affairs Emeritus is the retired staff winner. Both “retired” in the same year, 1992, and both have continued to come back to campus since then to do the work that they have loved. In doing so, both have sustained a level of professional engagement in their respective fields that has brought them and UMKC the kind of local, national and international recognition which the Award symbolizes. They join past winners Dan Jaffe and Richard Gentile in this honor. Their awards will be presented at the April 5, 2014 UMKCRA Luncheon meeting.

I will let the nominating and supporting materials help me tell the retirement stories of these outstanding retirees and the legacies that they have created.

G. Ross Stephens

His nominator wrote:

“His research and scholarly writing on American politics---especially on the topics of taxation and governmental finance and governmental organization ---have spanned more than six decades and have been marked by several admirable traits: thoroughness, attention to detail and a willingness to challenge conventional wisdom as well as speak truth to those in power. He has continued these efforts in his more than two decades of retirement that have included two books that have appeared since he retired: *American Intergovernmental Relations: A Fragmented*

UMKCRA 2014 Calendar

Watch for More Details!

April 5, 2014 – UMKCRA Spring Luncheon – Pierson Auditorium

May 7, 2014 – UMKCRA Board Meeting – Location to be determined

August 6, 2014 – UMKCRA Board Meeting – Gillham Park Room

Warkoczewski Observatory is open on clear Friday evenings from May 1 through October 31 and from dusk until 10:00 pm. (See story on page 7 for more detail).

November 5, 2014 – UMKCRA Board Meeting – Gillham Park Room

Polity (with Nelson Wikstrom, Oxford University Press, 2007) and *Metropolitan Government and Governance: Theoretical Perspectives, Empirical Analysis and the Future* (with Nelson Wikstrom, Oxford University Press, 2000).

Since retirement, Ross has also published 12 journal articles and book chapters and several guest editorials in the *Kansas City Star*. In addition, he has continued to present at professional conferences (more than a dozen including one on “Technology and the Social Sciences” in 2013) and a conference paper in January 2014 on “Federal Finances, the Economy and the National Debt: An Experimental Macro Approach to the Political Economy of the United States.”

Ross also writes letters to the editors of newspapers and in other ways makes his expertise available to local citizens in the local media as well as the broader communities of professional interest in his field. He is now using the newer media of the internet publication posting about a dozen detailed and pointed essays on topics based on his research since 2011

His research has had an international impact as well. A recent book published in Japan titled *Reform Theory in Prefecture Governments* (Dr. Yu Noda, Waykayama University Press, 2007) uses a methodology Ross developed in the 1970s. In 2002, he conducted a three day seminar (funded by the U.S. State Department) on “Metropolitan Government and Governance” in Jalisco, Mexico, for local officials from the region. He also was the Principal Keynote Speaker in April 2006, at the International Forum on Metropolitan Regions Development, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China.”

One of his letters of support includes the following:

“Although Ross officially retired from the faculty of the University of Missouri-Kansas City on September 1, 1992, he has never completely retired from his role as a political scientist, maintaining a regular office schedule, Monday through Friday (and sometimes on Saturday), throughout the years. Since his “official retirement,” Ross through his research and scholarship has “cemented” his outstanding reputation as a leading scholar of urban politics, federalism and intergovernmental relations, particularly in regard to the dynamics of fiscal federalism.”

And another aptly sums things up:

“Retirement may be a stopping point for many, but for Ross, it seems never to have been a destination. Rather, it was more in the nature of a milestone to be passed, and perhaps to be noted, but without ever slowing, just as one passes a marker on a highway. Dr. Ross Stephens, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, has devoted not only his career, but also his life, to scholarship and to the life of the mind.”

Leo Sweeney

Leo’s nominator has written that:

“Leo successfully transitioned from a 35 year Student Affairs and Enrollment Management career at UMKC, in which he served as the first Director of Admissions, Registrar and Assistant Vice Chancellor of International Student Affairs, to an active post-retirement career where he continued as a consultant for UMKC for 16 additional years, while he also expanded his work in the Kansas City community. During his post-retirement years Leo continued to publish books and articles, and give presentations at national conferences regarding international comparative education—especially on the Indian educational system. His community involvement could be seen most keenly in his deepened commitments to the Sunflower Chapter of the Military Officers of America and to St. Luke’s College of Health Sciences and St. Luke’s Hospital.

Leo is still referred to by most knowledgeable people in the international education field in the United States, and many outside it, as the Grandfather of International Education. Well known for his mentoring and generous spirit, his contributions in this field continued to expand during his post-retirement years at UMKC, during which he co-authored the definitive book on comparative Indian education, ***PIER Presents: India***, along with his mentee, Dr. Ravi Kallur. This is the fourth publication on the educational systems of countries in South Asia that he completed. He continued to provide evaluations of Indian documents, helping to cement India as the largest sending country of international students at UMKC. Prior to his official retirement he had helped establish and expand an enormous advising network in India. The organization is still as vital today as when Leo helped set it up in the late 1960s. Along with many post-retirement snippets on listservs, Leo was a frequent and welcome contributor to “The ADSEC News”, a robust electronic

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newsletter run by the Admissions Section of NAFSA from 2003 till 2012. From inception, it was always one of the top 10 most popular electronic resources from NAFSA, often coming in as the top resource. Having contributors of the caliber of Leo meant that more than 1,000 people downloaded each newsletter, because it was a valuable resource.

Some of the awards and accolades bestowed upon Leo also speak of his contributions to the field of international education and to UMKC after he retired. Included among those are a citation from the U.S. Department of State for 21 years of service as an Educational Consultant in the Overseas Schools Project, in March 2000 being named to the UMKC Top 100 1929-1999 as one of the Top 40 Achievers, and in 2005 winning AACRAO's Award for Excellence in International Education at the 95th annual meeting in New York City.

Upon retirement, in addition to serving as a mentor for many in the field of international education, performing extensive educational consulting in over 40 countries, being generous with his time, research efforts and advice, and serving as the foremost expert on the Indian education system, Leo put UMKC on the map as a university with a unique approach to recruitment, admissions and advising, tying all three thrusts together holistically. He was asked to consult about this model frequently, and a number of key US universities have adapted this approach in serving their international student populations.”

And the letters of support for Leo are so many that I can only present but a few of the glowing comments here.

One writes:

“Leo is known for his collaborative leadership style, as well as his adroitness with and acceptance of the value of electronic technology. He was placed on a technology national task force in 2005 by NAFSA Association of International Educators, a move that surprised many young leaders also serving on the task force. I was told by leaders of the organization that everyone quickly rallied around the enthusiasm, experience, and expertise of Leo. I had the pleasure of collaborating with him, witnessing how broad, deep and research-based his thinking was on technology issues. He also served as one of the original architects of “Edge”, AACRAO's comprehensive electronic database of comparative education country profiles and recommendations.

In the 21 years since he retired from UMKC, Leo has continued to dedicate time, passion, energy and professionalism to substantive areas of UMKC and the Kansas City Community. His work with those who work primarily with international students continues, and his involvement with peers is richer and more informed than ever. His retirement has allowed his community engagement and leadership to grow more impactful and holistic.”

Another has said:

“Please accept my heartfelt endorsement of Leo Sweeney for the prestigious UMKCRA Recognition Award. I have known Leo Sweeney since I first started my career in international student admission over 28 years ago. I am very proud to know him indeed, and can testify that he epitomizes the word “legacy” in my profession. Long before the Internet, back in the days of telephone calls and typewriters, when an international admission professional happened upon a foreign credential they could not decipher, there were a handful of gurus you could contact for help. Leo was and is the South Asia education guru. As you must certainly know, he literally “wrote the book” on the education system of India. In fact, at least two. Long after the onset of email, websites and e-databases, his books are on the shelves of every self-respecting international credential evaluator on the globe.”

Please plan to join us at the April 5th UMKCRA Luncheon and Business meeting as we honor these two outstanding retirees for their continued service to campus, community and profession. (*Editor’s note: Luncheon information and reservation form are elsewhere in this newsletter*).

UMKCRA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

By Rita Messina, Secretary

Members of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Retirees Association met on December 7, 2013 in Pierson Auditorium for the annual holiday reception, luncheon, and annual association business meeting. A reception with wine and punch began at 11:00 am, followed by luncheon at 11:30.

Following lunch, President Pat Hovis-French opened the business meeting. The first order of business was the election of board members. The nominees: Lora Lacey-Haun for Vice-President and President Elect

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(2014); Ted Sheldon for Treasurer (2014-2015); and Brenda Fasken, Bob Piepho, and Merton Shatzkin for three year terms (2014-2017). Denny Schemmel made a motion to accept the nominees, Merton Shatzkin seconded the motion, and those association members present approved the motion by a voice vote.

The next order of business was proposed amendments to the association constitution and by-laws. The proposed amendments had been sent to association members in the August 2013 UMKCRA Newsletter and were also distributed to each table at the luncheon. Additionally, President Hovis-French reviewed the changes for the assembled membership with a power point presentation.

Article III. Membership section of the Constitution expands on the definition of association members.

Article IX. Dissolution section of the Constitution revises the management of association funds in the event of dissolution of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Retirees Association.

Section I of the by-laws revises the duties of the Treasurer.

Section 3 of the by-laws revises the duties of Committees.

(A complete description of all amendments can be found in the August 2013 UMKCRA Newsletter and in the May 1, 2013 minutes of the UMKCRA Board of Directors Meeting.)

David Tanquary moved that the proposed amendments to the UMKCRA Association Constitution and By-Laws be accepted. Brenda Fasken seconded the motion. The amendments were approved by voice vote by those members present.

Questionnaires had been left at each table for attendees to mark their preference in regard to usage of the UMKCRA website. They were asked if they would rather use the UMKCRA website or Face Book to receive information about the association. Questionnaires were collected and will be tallied. *(Editor's note: the results are reported elsewhere in this issue.)*

At that point, President Hovis-French thanked everyone for their support during her year as president and formally passed the gavel to Mary Anne Morgenegg.

Following the business meeting, Assistant Professor Daniel McIntosh of the UMKC Department of Physics and Astronomy provided a power point of images from across the universe to assist in his explanation of galaxies, planets, and stars. His enthusiasm for the subject was evident and his program was well received. Dr. McIntosh invited those interested to visit the *Warkoczewski Observatory* located on campus atop the roof of Royall Hall. The Observatory is open on clear Friday evenings from May 1 through October 31 and from dusk until 10:00 pm.

UMKCRA COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

By Dale Neuman, Chair

The Communications Committee conducted most of its business electronically during 2013. The primary focus of its efforts was to find ways to improve UMKCRA communications with special emphasis on improving timeliness and user friendliness of the UMKCRA website. Problems were identified and solutions sought and proposed. But we were able to do little to make changes seen as needed because of the complicated way in which the site is managed for UMKCRA. Others suggested that we might think about abandoning our site and going to Facebook while some suggested we reduce our site to mostly an archive location and a sign-up vehicle leaving news to other media. It was suggested at a board meeting that we take a survey at the December luncheon to see what feedback we could get on some of these ideas and so we did. What follows is the result of that survey and some interpretative comments about the data.

We received 25 completed surveys from among the more than 60 in attendance. Since some responses reflected household use, the response rate is probably closer to 50% albeit those who come to luncheons may not fully reflect our membership.

The results show that our members rarely use the UMKCRA website with only 12% reporting use more than once or twice a year while 25% say they never use it.

Of those who did use it, they used it for different purposes. Those who took the survey could indicate all of the ways they use the site so we tabulated responses rather than respondents here. Fifty-four percent of the responses indicated use mostly for UMKCRA events; 10% were to read

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the newsletter; 24% checked the by-laws or archives; 2% paid dues; 10% looked for links to other retiree sites.

Forty-eight percent use Facebook and 52% do not. When those who used Facebook were asked if they would prefer to get UMKCRA information there, 75% said yes. But when we asked those who did not use Facebook if they would go there to get UMKCRA information, 69% said they would not.

Several members volunteered that they thought we ought to go back to the phone tree for time-critical information to members. And a number volunteered that they found it too hard to get to our site and the information mostly outdated if they did get there so, they rarely tried anymore.

In short, there is consensus that our communications process involving the website needs much work and the site is not likely to be used by many for more than event information but there is no clear sense of a preferred solution. So the Communications Committee and the UMKCRA leadership will be again working to address this in 2014.

UMKCRA TREASURER'S REPORT

By Ted Sheldon, Treasurer

The fiscal year of the UMKC Retirees Association is the calendar year. The UMKC Retirees Association ended the 2013 fiscal year in good financial condition (see Table 1 below). On December 31, 2013, the Association held total assets of \$15,177.73. This amount included \$9,367.45 in the Investment Account and \$5,810.28 in the Operating Account. One year earlier, on December 31, 2012, total assets amounted to \$16,118.75, including \$8,125.01 in the Investment Account and \$7,993.74 in the Operating Account. This amounts to a net decline in total assets of \$941.02, and a decline of \$2,183.46 in the Operating Account. The rather substantial loss in the Operating Account was partially offset by the \$1,242.44 rise in the Investment Account balance.

TABLE 1: Balance Sheet - As of 12/31/2013

Category	Account
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
UMKCRA Investment Acct	\$ 9,367.45
UMKCRA Operating Acct	\$ 5,810.28
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	\$ 15,177.73
 TOTAL ASSETS	 \$ 15,177.73
 LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
LIABILITIES	\$ -
 EQUITY	 \$ 15,177.73
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 15,177.73

RETIREEES INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

Funds held in the Retirees Investment Account increase and decrease in value as the investments held by the fund change in value. Funds in the Investment Account are managed as part of the University’s investment pools in accord with the policies and goals set for those pools. During 2013 fiscal year, the balance in the Investment Account has increased by \$1,242.44. This amounts to a return of 15.3 percent for the year. This is a significant improvement compared to the Capitol Federal CD that held this investment in earlier years, and by far the best return the Investment Account has experienced in many years.

OPERATING ACCOUNT (See Table 2 Below)

The balance in the Operating Account amounted to \$5,810.28 on December 31, 2013, is a decline of \$2,183.46 compared to the same date in 2012. As Table 2 shows, annual income amounted to \$8,410.44; expenses for the year amounted to \$9,351.46. This expense total includes \$2,500 contributed to the new scholarship fund. Membership dues

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declined by \$3,050.00 during 2013 compared to dues received last year. Ten retirees paid life dues, and 55 people paid annual dues during 2013.

Compensating for these low income figures was the generally low level of expenses paid out, only \$6,851.46 when the \$2,500 contribution to the scholarship fund is removed.

A Transaction report to any member detailing all income and expense transactions on the operating account is available on request by contacting the Treasurer at sheldontp@gmail.com.

**TABLE 2: Income/Expense Comparison by Category,
2013 Compared to 2012 Through December 31**

Category	2012	2013	Difference
INCOME			
Chancellor	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00	\$ -
Decline In Value			
Events-Receipts & Fees	2,640.00	1,968.00	(672.00)
Gift Income	525.00	250.00	(275.00)
Interest Inc	527.93	1,242.44	714.51
Member Dues Paid- Annual	1,900.00	550.00	(1,350.00)
Member Dues Paid-Life	2,700.00	1,000.00	(1,700.00)
Return of Funds	63.67	-	(63.67)
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 11,756.60	\$ 8,410.44	\$(3,346.16)
EXPENSES			
Dues and Subscriptions	\$ -	\$ 133.34	\$ (133.34)
Events-Facility Charges	-	345.00	(345.00)
Meals & Entertainment Office	2,929.35	3,876.15	(946.80)
Supplies/Expenses	1,287.98	125.63	1,162.35
Postage & Delivery	1,727.07	1,144.50	582.57
Printing and Reproduction	1,098.05	1,226.84	(128.79)
Scholarship Fund	-	2,500.00	(2,500.00)

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Travel	298.73	-	298.73
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 7,341.18	\$ 9,351.46	\$(2,010.28)
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ 4,415.42	\$ (941.02)	\$(5,356.44)

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Board pledged a contribution to the Scholarship Fund of \$5,000. Earlier this year, the Board authorized the transfer of \$2,500 to the Fund from the Operating Account, and that transfer took place in September 2013. The second transfer of \$2,500 fulfilling the pledge remains to be made.

This report does not include scholarship funds sponsored by the UMKC Retirees Assn. and administered by UMKC.

BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2014

Table 3 contains the budget proposal for the 2014 fiscal year. The expectations of income have been adjusted in the light of experience during the 2013 fiscal year.

ACTION ITEM: Approve a budget for the 2014 fiscal year.

**TABLE 3: Budget Proposal for 2014
With Historical Budget 2013 Budget vs. Actual**

Category	2013 Actual	2013 Budget	2014 Proposed Budget
INCOME			
Chancellor	\$3,400.00	\$3,400.00	\$3,400.00
Events-Receipts & Fees	1,968.00	2,820.00	2,000.00
Gift Income	250.00	50.00	50.00
Investment Income	-	500.00	820.00
Member Dues Paid-Annual	550.00	1,700.00	600.00
Member Dues Paid-Life	1,000.00	2,200.00	1,400.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,168.00	\$10,670.00	\$8,270.00
EXPENSES			
Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 133.34	\$ 200.00	\$ 150.00
Gifts & Appreciations	-	220.00	220.00
Meals & Entertainment	3,876.15	4,000.00	3,900.00

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Office Supplies & Expenses	125.63	1,300.00	1,300.00
Postage & Delivery	1,144.50	1,900.00	1,150.00
Printing and Reproduction	1,226.84	1,100.00	1,250.00
Scholarship Fund	-	1,200.00	-
Speaker Fees	-	300.00	-
Travel	-	200.00	200.00
Website	-	250.00	100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,506.46	\$10,670.00	\$8,270.00

IN MEMORIAM

(Editor's note: In a past issue of the newsletter, I announced the policy agreed to by the Board to provide In Memoriam coverage in the newsletter when we were notified by reference to a published obituary of the passing of a member to avoid mistaken references to someone's passing. Our efforts to publish an annual list based on the records of the UM system retirement office have not been successful. So we must rely on others to send me the link to an obituary of someone who may have been a member so that I may include that name and an abridged version of the remembrance in this column. One of our members, Heather Paxton, has agreed to assist in monitoring the remembrance pages for this column and I thank her for her efforts.)

Dr. Hans Uffelmann, 80, Leawood, KS, passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends on December 7, 2013, at Overland Park Regional Medical Center. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Center for Practical Bioethics, Harzfeld Building, 1111 Main Street, Suite 500, Kansas City, MO 64105. Hans was born in Kassel, Germany in 1933. He came to the U.S. as a young man and met the love of his life, Marilynn, at UC Davis where he took his B.A. After a three-year interruption of his academic career, serving with the U.S. Army as a surgical technician, he resumed his studies at Northwestern University, where he earned a M.A. and Ph.D. In 1963, Hans and Marilynn moved to Kansas City where he began a 36 year career teaching philosophy and medical ethics at UMKC. He was a pioneer in medical education and bioethics, and one of the first philosophers in the U.S. to hold a faculty position in a medical school. (Source: Kansas City Star, December 12, 2013).

Gary W. Nahrstedt, 77, of Lenexa, died December 21, 2013 at Sweet Life-Shawnee of Alzheimer's disease. Gary was born September 11, 1936, in Buffalo, NY, the only child of Gerhard and Gretchen Nahrstedt. Gary earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology at Florida State University and a Master and Doctorate of Education at Auburn University. He taught junior high school science for three years in Panama City, FL, and was a Professor of Science Education for 36 years at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He was an active member of Leawood Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon and taught Bible Study classes. He also was a member of Sigma Chi social fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi honorary societies. He was Chairman of Judges for many years for the Greater Kansas City Science Fair. He was a volunteer with the American Red Cross Disaster Services for almost nine years and at Overland Park Regional Medical Center for four years. (Source Kansas City Star, January 5, 2014).

UMKCRA RECOGNITIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

By Denny Schemmel, Chair 2013

The Recognitions Committee recommended to the Board at the November meeting the faculty candidacy of Dr. Ross Stephens for this annual Recognitions Award. The recommendation was unanimously accepted.

In December the Recognitions Committee reviewed the application and required documents for a distinguished staff person to be nominated for this award. The Committee was pleased with the paperwork and it is our recommendation that the staff candidacy of Leo Sweeney be accepted for this annual Recognitions Award.

Items from system-wide news sources of interest to UMKCRA

UMKC WINS HONOR FOR RECYCLING

The University of Missouri-Kansas City Sustainability Team was recently awarded first place in the 2013 RecycleMania National Recycling Competition. The Team beat 523 participating colleges and universities by recycling 86 percent of its overall waste products, which is equivalent to a reduction of 360 metric tons of carbon dioxide. The group's goal is to improve UMKC's sustainability programs and make them the norm on campus. In recognition of this achievement, the Missouri Recycling

Association, or MORA, has awarded the Sustainability Team with the 2013 Outstanding Community Program Award and invited the team to attend MORA's annual proclamation ceremony in Jefferson City on February 10. Every year, on "America Recycles Day", MORA recognizes groups that embody and promote the spirit of recycling in the state and in their communities. (Source: UM Legislative Update, February 14, 2014.)

BUDGET UPDATE

Conversations around the Capitol are focused on the discrepancies in Governor Nixon's released state budget and Representative Stream's budget. (*Editor's note: Rep. Stream is Chairman of the House Budget Committee.*) Nixon's budget is based off of a 5.2% revenue growth estimate while the legislature is only estimating 4.2% in revenue growth. A \$310 million discrepancy exists between the two budgets. For the University of Missouri System, Nixon's budget proposes a core budget allocation of about \$428.8 million including performance funding while Stream's budget only includes about \$411.2 million for the core budget and performance funding. Both of these numbers are short of the \$434.6 million that ASUM and the UM System are asking for this year. The remaining weeks of the legislative session will include discussions in the House and Senate over how the general revenue fund should be divided in 2015. (Source: Associated Students of the University of Missouri Newsletter, February 14, 2014.)

UM Legislative Day

By Mary Anne Morgenegg, UMKCRA President

Over 20 people from UMKC's Administration, Students, Academic Units, Alumni, and Retirees, traveled to Jefferson City on February 18th. There they joined supporters from other UM campuses, Extension, and System offices for the 40th Annual Legislative Day. The day began with a rally in the Capitol Rotunda. Governor Nixon addressed those present, thanking them for their commitment to higher education in the State and outlining his hopes for the remainder of the legislative year. He thanked President Wolfe and the chancellors for agreeing to hold down the costs by freezing tuition for another year. He reiterated his belief that public education is the best way to assure positive economic growth. As an example, he noted that between 1940 and 1950, the GI Bill doubled the number of graduates

in Missouri. By the end of the next generation, the number of graduates had quintupled. He believes a direct correlation can be made between those numbers and the growth the State experienced during that time.

President Tim Wolfe also spoke. He continues to travel throughout the State, meeting with middle and high school students and civic leaders. He is making the case that a college degree significantly improves earning potential and quality of life. He has made nine visits, with six more Show Me Value trips being planned.

Teams of participants worked the halls and offices, meeting with members of both the Missouri House and Senate. The conversations with legislators focused on several projects considered priorities.

UM visitors were asked to encourage legislators to protect funding for higher education. The university hopes to receive an additional \$12.5 million dollars in new funding based on meeting performance measures. Also, the university requests increases in its core operating budget; STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) funding; and a mental health initiative, *Caring for Missourians*, that will help address professional shortages throughout the State.

System-wide the university faces a \$1.3 billion backlog of renovation and repair on all four campuses. There are two bills that could begin to address this. The first, HJR 73, would allow voters to authorize up to \$480 million for capital projects. The second, SB 723, would allow revenue bonds to be issued for the maintenance and repair of public buildings without voter approval.

The appropriate level of state matching funds will leverage this support and speed the completion of campus capital projects.

Corporate, individual, and foundation donors have stepped up to support the university's capital projects for a true 50/50 partnership with the state.

UMKC has commitments of \$7.4 million dollars to create a Free Enterprise Center. This new building would house programs associated with the Bloch School of Management and the School of Engineering and Computing. It will support entrepreneurial growth in the Kansas City area. State financial support is vital to this project and to future planning at UMKC.

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Phase 2 of renovations for the UMKC School of Medicine will include completion of improvements to the existing building and the construction of an educational center that will benefit all the health sciences schools, with additional classrooms and expanded library space.

The School of Pharmacy's agreement to expand its program to Springfield is going forward.

The day closed with a legislative issues panel put together by Marty Oetting and others from the Government Relations Office. The session was held in the House Lounge, the location of the Thomas Hart Benton murals. Several senators, representatives and state higher education leaders spoke to the group and answered questions. The chancellors also addressed the delegates. It provided an overview of the support higher education enjoys in the State.

Several of the legislators mentioned the funding model developed by the Council on Public Higher Education (COPHE), which served as the basis for House Bill 492. The bill linked financial support of four-year institutions in the State to performance measures. The bill was being debated in the Senate on Legislative Day and passed shortly thereafter. A note: UM campuses' specific performance objectives were all fulfilled in the past year.

Thanks to Lisen Tammeus Mann, Troy Lillebo, and the entire team whose hard work made Legislative Day a success. Special thanks to Dee Evans and Shannee Steinmeier for keeping us on track throughout the day.

EMERITUS COLLEGE RECEPTION

By Dale Neuman

On Wednesday, February 19, 2014, a reception was held at Diastole for emeritus and emerita UMKC faculty to allow them to meet and learn of the status of the UMKC Emeritus College. The Emeritus College, whose planning committee was created by Provost Hackett in 2010, is the result of the efforts of that committee between 2010 and 2013 and is now part of the UMKC Strategic Plan.

The first Dean of the College is Bibie Chronwall who presided over the brief program and introduced Devon Cancilla, UMKC Vice-Provost for Online and Distance Learning who spoke on behalf of the Provost who

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was out of town. Bibie then introduced Nancy Mills who had chaired the planning committee and more recently has been working on the capital campaign for the Emeritus College. Nancy added her comments and recognized other members of the planning group who were present. She then responded to questions from those attending.

Several questions asked about financial matters. The Dean is currently an unpaid position but it is anticipated that support staff will be part-time. The College does not yet have a budget and anticipates a dues structure plus an endowment as the primary funding base. UMKC has made space available on the second floor of the Miller Nichols Library next to the FACET space for the College. It is anticipated that there will be some common-space sharing with FACET. The cost of the renovation of that space will be \$160,000 and, since \$100,000 has already been raised, the renovation is proceeding. It is expected that the remainder will be covered by donations to the capital campaign and that the space should be available late summer.

Another question dealt with how retirees communicate their views on issues of concern to them to the university's officials. Suggested avenues currently available were to go through members and officers of UMKCRA since the officers meet with the Chancellor or his representative on occasion to discuss concerns; through UMKCRA committees that deal with the issue or through those officers of UMKCRA that travel three times a year to Columbia to meet with the UM President and the UM Vice President for Human Resources whose office oversees the benefits plans.

This event was attended by a number of emeritus/emerita faculty and spouses. A similar event is contemplated later this year to welcome the newcomers to the ranks of emeritus status at UMKC at the close of the 2013-2014 academic year.

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The UMKCRA Newsletter is edited by Dale Neuman. Please contact Dale at 816-942-9091, 816-235-2787, neumandale@hotmail.com or neumand@umkc.edu with questions or comments about the newsletter. Rita Messina has joined the newsletter team as an assistant to the editor. Kim Rudolph of the Alumni and Constituent Relations Office manages design, layout and production.

UMKCRA SPRING RECEPTION AND LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2014

- 11:00 a.m. Reception
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. Business Meeting
- 12:30 p.m. Awards and Program

PIERSON AUDITORIUM
5000 Holmes, Kansas City, MO 64110

*****Cut here and mail with payment*****

UMKCRA SPRING RECEPTION AND LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2014

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip code: _____

Number Attending _____ @ \$16.00 each. Total \$ _____

YES! I would like vegetarian plate(s) _____

Please charge my credit card (*circle one*):

Master Card Visa Discover AMEX

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

--or--

Send checks payable to the:
UMKC Retirees Association
5100 Rockhill Road, AC 300-B
Kansas City, MO 64110

Please RSVP by Monday, March 31, 2014



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY
Retirees Association
5100 Rockhill Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64110-2499