

As We Look Ahead

By Chancellor Leo Morton

UMKC has always been a place of big dreams. The founders of our university, as they struggled through the Great Depression, believed in the bold idea of creating a university for Kansas City to generate growth and development. They achieved their dream, and the university continues to expand, and support the community's development, today as we work toward our goal of enrolling 20,000 students by 2020.

Our growth is guided by our strategic plan, and we have reached several important milestones and taken big steps toward others.

For the current semester, enrollment is up about 4 percent over last year. Continuing students, which includes transferring from community colleges and other institutions, is up 2.4 percent. First-time college student enrollment (incoming freshmen) is up by almost 7 percent. We are continuing to make solid progress toward our enrollment goal. There are several reasons why we are succeeding. One is our commitment to maintain, and enhance, the quality of our teaching, learning and research. Another is our ongoing effort to create an exceptional campus life experience for students. Our commitments to making college more affordable, and to help more of our students to be successful, are bearing fruit.

The Hospital Hill Campus has its first student housing building, a new apartment complex that houses 245 students and includes an attached parking garage. It is playing a key role not just in supporting the education of our students, but in revitalizing a neighborhood in the urban core.

The Master Plan also calls for construction of an exciting new facility, the Free Enterprise Center, on Volker Boulevard. This will be a \$14.8 million product development hub available to entrepreneurs, local industry, and high school and college students as they pursue entrepreneurial ventures. It will serve the growing enrollment in our Bloch School and our School of Computing and Engineering.

UMKCRA 2014 Calendar

Watch for More!

December 6, 2014 – Holiday Luncheon – Pierson Auditorium – Guest Speaker: Jennifer Martin, choreographer for the annual "Christmas Carol" presented by the KC Repertory Theatre. Jennifer will be joined by Barclay Martin, professional musician, providing appropriate music. Reservation forms are found in this newsletter.

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Another area of growth we need to address is the bioscience sector. Our investments will lead to great career opportunities for our graduates, important economic development for our community, and better health for us all. To help make that happen, our plan calls for renovations and expansion at our School of Biological Sciences building, School of Medicine building, and the Spencer Chemistry building. We also want to add a Translational Clinical Research Building on Hospital Hill, where researchers can take laboratory discoveries and turn them into treatments, cures and solutions that improve health, and quality of life.

Our plans for the university also call for changes in the area around 51st and Oak Streets. This site will house the first Whole Foods Market in Kansas City, MO, plus 150 market-rate apartments. The Whole Foods project will benefit our students as well as the surrounding neighborhood communities. Be on the lookout for information on this project as it moves forward.

We have also added some new leadership for the 2014 school year. Dr. Steven L. Kanter is the new Dean of the School of Medicine. He has a background in medical informatics, the science of using data to improve patient care. Medical informatics is rapidly becoming one of our true strengths in research and practice. Dr. Susan Wilson is the new Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion. Our commitment to diversity is one of our fundamental values as a university, and one of her primary responsibilities is to lead the implementation of our new strategic plan for diversity. Dr. James C. McKusick has been named the first Dean of the university's new Honors College and will join UMKC in March 2015. The Honors College will be an academic unit within the university that provides the best elements of a small liberal arts college while drawing upon the resources of a comprehensive research institution.

It is important to point out that all the good work being done by our health professions schools doesn't just happen on that campus. Several of our schools are leaders in distance learning approaches. The online graduate nursing programs at our School of Nursing and Health Studies are ranked among the top ten in the country. Their pioneering approach offers classroom-quality instruction with the reach and convenience of web-based learning. Our School of Pharmacy has offered satellite learning to students housed on other campuses since 2005. UMKC at MU, offered through the University of Missouri campus in Columbia, was our first site.

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This year, we are adding a similar program at Missouri State University in Springfield.

What we have accomplished with the support of alumni, constituents and the city of Kansas City is impressive and exciting. But we still have a lot more to do.

One of our biggest dreams is to develop the Downtown Arts Campus. This project will benefit our students, our university and our city in many ways. The UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance is recognized internationally as a center for artistic excellence, innovation and community engagement. This recognition is reflected in our attendance and enrollment; the Conservatory programs are severely overcrowded. Creating the Downtown Arts Campus will benefit students throughout the university by opening up space on our Volker campus for other growing programs while the Conservatory will be able to maintain its level of excellence when it occupies its new space.

In addition to providing much-needed space for a thriving program, the Downtown Arts Campus will stimulate development and growth in downtown Kansas City and the Crossroads district by bringing hundreds of daytime customers to existing and new businesses every day. The presence of our students in these districts will add a vital youthful energy and enhanced artistic activity to an important economic area of our city. Thus far, this project has received enormous support. A gift of an 80,000 square-foot tract of land between Broadway and 18th street, directly south of the Kauffman Center for Performing Arts has pushed our public fundraising for Phase One of the project past the halfway point.

As we make progress towards accomplishing all of the pieces of UMKC's strategic plan, we will move ever closer to achieving our goals of increased student enrollment, elevated experiences, and support for members of the university community and the community at large.

UM Officials Discuss Retiree Pension and Health Plans

By Dale Neuman

Hosted by UMKCRA member Ed Ellyson, and sponsored by the UMKCRA Benefits Committee, two officers of the UM system were at UMKC November 6th to discuss the state of the pension plan and health benefits. They were: Tom Richards, the UM Treasurer and Kelly Stuck, Associate VP for Human Resources.

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Tom Richards presented an overview of the financial health of the Retirement Plan as of June 30, 2014. The plan started the fiscal year on July 1, 2013, with \$2,919,000,000 in assets and ended on June 30, 2014, with \$3,333,000,000 in assets. The plan paid out \$178,300,000 in benefits over that same period. The total liability of the plan's fund (what it needs to cover all retirements in the future) is \$3,587,000,000, leaving an unfunded liability of \$254,000,000 (mostly a residual effect of the market decline in 2008-2009) that will have to be covered by other UM resources to keep the plan actuarially whole. However, the 93% funded to unfunded ratio is one of the best in the country as many retirement plans are severely underfunded. Hence, he concluded that we were in good shape for the present and for current retirees. But, with future market returns predicted to be closer to 3.5 % over the next 10 years, this situation is requiring the UM system to rethink the nature of the plan for new employees.

He reported that the plan presently has 10 investment areas to diversify risk and uses 46 different investment advising companies with special expertise in the areas they manage. Performances are periodically reviewed and those managers who do not meet the investment targets for their asset area lose their share of the UM portfolio and those funds are invested in other ways. The range in rates of return over the 10 asset areas for FY 2014 was 5.8% to 21.8%. The total rate of return was 16.3% while the UM target rate is 7.75%. This extra return is helping the fund to recover from the losses in 2008.

Kelly Stuck distributed handouts outlining the variety of health and wellness benefits available to UM retirees and reminded them that there were no changes in the UM plans for retirees for this year. She also reported that there is a new and more user-friendly phone system in place to handle retiree calls to the Benefits Office in Columbia. Among resources she discussed were the new on-line webinars where retirees could go to watch and listen to discussion of Medicare related topics. In response to a question about possible plans to change the Retiree Health Care Plan, she said that there will be no changes until at least 2017 and only after research is done in terms of what members want and need and whether there are better and less expensive (for both the retiree and the UM system) ways to get them what they need and want. She noted that only about 70% of UM Retirees opt for the UM plan making a pool of about only 4,000 over which the insurance risks have to be factored in costing the plan (as compared to over 40,000 in the current employee plan

which allows the risks to be more broadly distributed.) Stuck further noted that the current plan was created more than 50 years ago and many changes have occurred in both the delivery of health care and the ways of insuring that care that need to be considered as we go forward. But she assured those present that, before any changes are proposed, the research will include input from retirees as well as experts in the field as the goal of cost savings for both the retiree and the UM system in context of a quality program are the key concerns that will drive the planning.

(Editor's note: Here are the main contact points for UM retirement questions or concerns: HR Service Center 800-488-5288 or retirement@umsystem.edu)

The Emeritus College (EC)

Editor's note: This is from the Provost's report to the campus in U-matters.

We just had a “grand opening” of space in the Miller Nichols Library next to FaCET for our new Emeritus College. Prior to this there was no space anywhere on our two campuses for this group to congregate. We set up some work stations with computers and one office for the Dean of the Emeritus College, Bibie Chronwall (this is a volunteer position). I am sure everyone understands that when faculty retire, departments are generally not able to offer private offices on an ongoing basis because of space constraints. This shared space becomes a way for our emeriti to be able to continue to work when they are on campus.

An *EC task force* studied models for emeritus colleges at peer universities; they conducted a survey of retirees and faculty nearing retirement and reported on the results of that survey; they examined different organizational structures and ways to fund ECs; and prepared a written proposal. The EC should promote the scholarly and creative lives of our emeriti faculty and “prolong fruitful engagement with and service to the university and community”.

We have thus now unveiled the UMKC Emeritus College, which is primarily being funded through the fees paid by its members, and is established to both support emeriti faculty and also to keep those faculty, their talents and energy, connected to the University. The EC has an advisory board, and members have plans for much more than socializing. For example, the EC advisory board has discussed the potential for members to mentor junior faculty, advise students, teach, give public lectures, participate in recruiting students and development activities and

more. If you have questions about the EC please contact Bibie Chronwall at chronwallb@umkc.edu.

Nominations are always in order for both the UMKCRA Retired Faculty and UMKCRA Retired Staff Recognition Awards

By Patricia Hovis-French, Chair Recognition Award Committee for 2014

The UMKCRA Retired Faculty and Retired Staff Recognition Awards were initiated in 2011 and awarded for the first time at the April 2012 UMKCRA Spring Luncheon. Dr. Dan Jaffe, the first recipient of this award, was recognized for his creative activities in retirement as a Jazz Poet. The UMKCRA Recognition Award in 2013 went to Dr. Richard Gentile for his continued research and contributions in Geosciences. In 2014, for the first time two awards were made, recognizing Dr. Ross Stephens for his Political Science research and publications in retirement, and Mr. Leo Sweeney, for his outstanding work in retirement as an International Student Advocate. Each recipient received a personal plaque at the time the awards were presented and their names have been added to the permanent UMKCRA Recognition Awards plaque displayed in the 2nd floor Conference Area in the UMKC Administration Center.

The Committee has extended the December 1, 2014 nomination deadline for the awards to January 23, 2015 and encourages all retirees (one need not be a UMKCRA member to win or to nominate) to consider nominating someone who meets the criteria for either the staff or the faculty recognition award. Please read through the eligibility and award criteria below, begin to gather the necessary documentation, and plan on submitting your nominations by the new January 23, 2015, deadline for 2015. If you have any questions about the process, please contact Kim Rudolph, Liaison to UMKCRA from the UMKC Alumni & Constituent Relations Office at rudolphk@umkc.edu or 816-235-1563.

UMKCRA Recognition Award Nomination Information

Eligibility

Faculty or staff who were *Qualified Members of the UM Retirement Plan and have officially retired are eligible for this award. Posthumous awards may be made provided that all criteria have been met. Current UMKCRA Officers and Recognition Committee members are not eligible for nomination. One retired faculty member and one retired staff person may be recognized each year.

Nomination process

Faculty (active and retired), administrators, staff and community members may make nominations. Persons nominating a retired faculty or staff member for an award must complete the nomination form and provide a summary of the candidate's contributions. Letters of support from individuals knowledgeable about the candidate's achievements are encouraged.

Retired Faculty Recognition Award

This award is given to a University faculty retiree to recognize outstanding contributions and achievements to the university, UMKCRA, their profession and/or the community during their retirement period. Contributions of a retiree in the areas of teaching, research/scholarly works, service, or professional activities as well as service to UMKCRA will be considered by the UMKCRA Recognition Committee.

Retired Staff Recognition Award

This award is given to a UMKC staff retiree to recognize his/her outstanding accomplishments during retirement. Service to the University, UMKCRA, his/her profession and/or the community post-retirement is considered for the award. Accomplishments considered include service to the University, UMKCRA, the community, a profession and other achievements the nominator believes are noteworthy. Service to enhance the overall quality of the university experience for students, staff, faculty and retirees is considered.

*Qualified Member of UM Retirement Plan means the individual has earned the right to receive benefits from the Plan. She/he must complete five years regular service credit in order to be vested.

UMKCRA RECOGNITION AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Extended Submission Deadline is January 23, 2015

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete the nomination form as fully as possible and provide the supporting documentation called for that you believe qualifies the person for the UMKCRA Recognition Award. Please refer to the **Recognition Award Guidelines** as you prepare your nomination. Provide as much information as possible about the nominee's achievements in retirement and their impact that led you to nominate them

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for the award (Including letters of recommendation from other's who may know the nominee's contributions as well.)

Part 1.

Name of Nominee: _____

Year of Nominee's Retirement: _____

Department or School from which they retired: _____

Faculty ____ or Staff ____ (Check one)

Home Street Address of Nominee: _____

City, State and ZIP: _____

Nominee's Phone: _____

Nominee's Email: _____

Part 2.

Attach a brief description summarizing the reasons (in terms of the UMKCRA Recognition Award Criteria) you believe the nominee merits consideration.

Attach supporting evidence (newspaper, newsletter, magazine items or other appropriate data) documenting the nominee's achievements as a volunteer in retirement.

Part 3. To allow the Committee to follow-up in case there are questions, please provide:

Your Name: _____

Your Phone: _____

Your Email: _____

Send completed form and supporting materials to:

*UMKCRA Recognition Committee
300-B Administrative Center
5115 Oak Street, Kansas City, MO 64112*

Welcome from UMKCRA's 2015 President

By Lora Lacey-Haun

Dear Colleagues,

I am very excited to have the opportunity to serve as the President of the UMKC Retirees Association. I retired from the School of Nursing August 2013, and really enjoyed my 32 years at UMKC and all the wonderful colleagues and friends I met during that time. For both employees and retirees, it is a great time to be connected with the University. While we have always had budget issues to deal with, the campus leadership has found a way for UMKC to continue to grow. As President of the UMKC Retirees Association, I want to invite all of you to stay connected with the many activities that are occurring throughout the coming year.

I will host a retreat with the officers of the Association early 2015 and want to invite all interested retirees to attend. At that time we will determine our priorities for the year and establish a schedule of events in keeping with the mission of UMKCRA. In early January, I will send an email with the details. One important priority will be to work with the UM System on maintaining our retiree benefits. Bob Piepho, Dean Emeritus from the School of Pharmacy and Chair of the UMKCRA Benefits Committee, will continue to work with the System HR to assure the maintenance of our health benefits. If there are other issues that arise during the year, we will keep you informed and address them accordingly. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have questions or concerns. For those who do not have email, you can reach me at 913-541-1293. For those who do use email, my email address is Lacey-HaunC@umkc.edu.

I look forward to this year and hope to see many of you throughout the year at the various campus and Association events. I hope you have a wonderful holiday season and the Officers you have elected to represent you will get to work for you early in 2015.

Departing President Says Thanks!

By Mary Anne Morgenegg, 2014 UMKCRA President

Thank you, everyone for your help and support this year. Board members and Committee Chairs, I'm truly grateful for your hard work. UMKCRA is on a firmer footing because of your efforts.

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Our membership has increased, due to the efforts **Linda Edwards** and the **Membership Committee**. Special thanks go to Kim Rudolph, who handled the mailings and helped identify lapsed members.

Ted Sheldon and the other members of the **Finance Committee** have kept us on track, even when it wasn't easy.

Dale Neuman and the **Communications Committee** kept us informed through the newsletter and website.

The **Program Committee** arranged wonderful social and informational events. **Marj Finley and John Ditto**, the co-chairs, used their knowledge of the University and the community at large to identify great opportunities. Thanks, also, to Sarah Ralph for her assistance in planning our luncheons and other events.

Bob Piepho and the **Benefits Committee** arranged informational sessions to help the membership navigate through our University pension and insurance benefits, as well as the changes in the national health care system.

Bylaws, Recognition, Volunteerism – The efforts of these committees have kept us mindful of the goals of our organization, the contributions of our colleagues, and our ongoing commitment to the University.

Thanks, also to all the past presidents of the organization, **Pat, Nancy, Denny, Marvin, et al.** Your ongoing commitment to UMKCRA and the talents you continue to share, enrich the organization. I've learned so much from all of you.

I know you will support Lora Lacey-Haun as she assumes the office of President. It's been an honor to serve you.

UMKCRA Nominations for 2015

By Patricia Hovis-French, Chair

Immediately prior to the May 2014 Quarterly UMKCRA Board Meeting, the committee met. At that time they prepared a list of potential nominees for Board positions and Officers and charged the chairperson to contact these individuals to ascertain their willingness to have their names put forward at the August 2014 board meeting. The Board approved the slate that included the late Donald Mocker. Since his passing, the Board has approved the nomination of Mary McCamy for that position.

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Officers for 2015:

- Vice President/President Elect: Dr. Nancy Mills
- Secretary (2 year term): Ms. Rita Messina

Board members for three year terms (2015-2017):

- Ms. Rose Bell (Retired from A&S Advising Office)
- Dr. Charles Cobb (Retired from School of Dentistry)
- Ms. Mary McCamy (Retired from School of Medicine staff)

Biographical Information on Nominees

(Editor's note: Nancy and Rita have previously been nominated, elected, and served. They were introduced more fully in the past. We have chosen to give more coverage to our newcomers.)

Nancy Mills was born in Sterling, Illinois and came to Kansas City when she was 17 to go to nursing school. Her academic background includes three degrees from UMKC: Bachelors, Masters, and Ph.D. She accepted her first faculty position at the UMKC School of Nursing in 1980. Other positions she held there included Associate Dean, then Dean. After her official retirement, she continued serving in an administrative capacity at UMKC as Interim Vice Provost for Research. After her term as President of UMKCRA, Nancy chaired the ad hoc group to develop the Emeritus College and currently serves on its Executive Board. Her favorite memories of her time at UMKC were getting the new building to house the Schools of Nursing and Pharmacy and getting the BSN approved. Nancy and her husband Tom have been married 48 years. They have one son Tom Brian, daughter-in-law Lynda, and grandsons John and Joah. She couldn't think of anything about her that would be surprising, but she hopes that UMKCRA can protect retiree benefits and increase them where possible.

Rita Messina began working at UMKC in 2003 as a Research Associate in the Institute for Human Development. In 2005 she transferred to the Geosciences Department as Administrative Assistant, from which she recently retired. Born in KC, she is also a UMKC alumna with a B.A. in English and M.A. in Liberal Studies – and is still taking classes! Rita and her husband recently celebrated their 50th anniversary. With four children and eight grandchildren they are involved in many family activities. They are avid readers, dedicated walkers and supporters of the arts, particularly The Rep and student theater productions. She is looking forward to continued association with UMKC through continued service to UMKCRA.

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Rose Marie Bell was born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri. She graduated from Central High School (Class of 1967). After high school, she immediately joined the Women's Army Corp, serving there until 1972. After a brief "time out" from the WACs, Rose returned in 1973 and served through 1979. During that time, Rose also became certified as a medical assistant. She re-enlisted in the Army Reserves in 1986 and finally retired from the U.S. Army Reserves in December 2001 with 24 years of service.

Rose started taking classes at UMKC in 1976 and spent 12 years – course by course – earning her bachelor's degree, and later went on to get a Masters in Higher Education Administration. In 1978, Rose became an employee as well as a student of UMKC. Her first position was with the Mid-Continent Foundation Clearing House, working for Linda Talbot. Over the ensuing years, Rose worked with the students on the Blue Unit in the School of Medicine, spent time in Continuing Education at the Bloch School, and finally moved to the College of Arts and Sciences where she worked in an administrative capacity with the dean and two assistant deans and coordinated A&S undergraduate scholarship programs and served on the UMKC Scholarship Appeals Committee. Her final years at UMKC were spent in academic advising in A&S. Professional associations include serving as Vice President of Professional Development and later President of the state-wide Missouri Academic Advisor Association (12 years). She currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the KCMO Public Library.

In 1987, Rose received the Outstanding Service and Support Award. She was also quite active with and on the Board of the UMKC Staff Assembly. While working on her master's degree in the early '90s, Rose co-chaired a conference to attract area minority students to graduate study. All told, Rose spent 32 years at UMKC prior to her retirement. Her favorite memory of her time there was definitely working with the students and helping them figure out what they wanted to do.

On a personal basis, Rose shared that she does not do animals!!!! The best thing for her about family life has been watching her two daughters go to college and graduate. When asked what she thought about her life might surprise her UMKCRA colleagues, Rose shared three things: She ran for a position on the KCMO School Board in 2010. Although she didn't win one of the two open positions, she did finish 3rd out of 6 candidates and was endorsed by the Teachers Union. Last month she was

honored in Who's Who in Black Kansas City. When she was a WAC in Japan she sang with a professional group / in a band and also did professional modeling.

What would she like UMKCRA to do for UMKC retirees? “Keep them up to date on what is going on at the university and have activities that they can get involved in!”

Charles Cobb was born at the old St. Joseph Hospital in Kansas City but was raised in Independence, Missouri, where he attended William Chrisman High School. His connection with UMKC began when it was still the University of Kansas City. He attended there two years as an undergraduate in Arts and Science before beginning his studies at the School of Dentistry at 10th and Troost. He graduated with his DDS six months after the institution became the University of Missouri at Kansas City. Following the DDS program he stayed on at UMKC for two years completing a residency in Periodontics and earning a Master's degree in Microbiology. After serving two years in the US Navy ('66-'68), Charlie went back to school, this time at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, where he completed his Ph.D. in Anatomy.

His academic career took him to LSU in New Orleans for three years and then to University of Alabama in Birmingham for three years. He returned to the Kansas City area in 1976 and established his private dental practice. He couldn't stay away from teaching though and taught one day a week at UMKC School of Dentistry for the next 10 years. In 1986 he joined the faculty on a full-time basis until his retirement in 2002.

Charles was a member of the founding Ph.D. Executive Committee that crafted the regulations for the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. degree and saw it approved by the Missouri Coordinating Board of Higher Education in 1989. In December 2002, Charles officially “retired” and returned to his private practice in Gladstone for four years. Teaching kept drawing him back; however, and in 2006 he resumed teaching 3 days a week at the Dental School, then 2 days a week for a while, and then last year he taught 5 days a week as interim director of the periodontal residency program. This year, he has dropped down to only one day a week of teaching. Who knows where it will go from here!

Charles and his wife, Sally, just celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary in June. They met during his junior year in the Dental School. Sally was in the Dental Hygiene program. For 40 years of their married life, Charles and Sally have had a pair of black cats – not the

same ones all that time, of course. While Charles has been teaching, for over two decades Sally has kept busy volunteering with the Children's Center for the Visually Impaired. She has written several cookbooks for them to support their fundraising efforts. One of the cookbooks became the best-selling regional cookbook for Williams Sonoma! Their two granddaughters are both active and talented in sports. One is a figure skater and has trained at the Olympic Training Center and the other plays soccer.

Charles' favorite memory of his nearly 50 year association with UMKC was his time playing baseball for the school when he was a student. They had a pretty good baseball team then, and as a catcher, he lettered for three years. When asked what about him he thought his UMKC colleagues might be surprised, he responded, "Knowing me, I'm not sure they would be surprised about anything!" He did share; however, that he had established two scholarships: one for an undergraduate student in general dentistry and one for a student in periodontics.

What does he think UMKCRA can do for UMKC retirees? "Encourage UMKC to keep the welcome mat open and keep retirees involved to the extent that everybody wants to be involved and support the Retirees Association so that it can remain viable."

Mary McCamy was born in St. Joseph, MO and attended Missouri Western University there for three years. She came to Kansas City in 1978 and that summer began working at the UMKC School of Medicine as a temporary employee for the first dean, Dr. Richardson K. Noback. Dr. Harry Jonas became the second dean in October, 1978, and asked her to stay on permanently as a senior secretary, executive staff assistant and manager of the Dean's Office. Mary completed her undergraduate degree at UMKC in 1989. In 1990, the Office of Alumni and Development opened at the School of Medicine and Mary became Assistant Manager of Alumni. She retired after 30 years at the School of Medicine as Director of Alumni, Constituent Relations, and Special Events. During her tenure at the School, she worked on CME, Graduate Medical Education, Medical Humanities, recruiting for admissions in the state, accreditation site visits, was temporarily Director of the Dean's Office during Dean Michael Friedland's tenure while simultaneously working in alumni and development, and "other duties as needed" including working with physical plant staff, grounds crew, etc. Mary worked in a variety of areas during her years at the Medical school!

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When asked about her favorite memory of her time at UMKC, her response was, “ I had two special loves at the School of Medicine: working and getting to know our wonderful alumni and working on the Medical Humanities and Ethics Committee--both so fulfilling and lasting. I continue to serve on the humanities committee, and stay in touch with many alumni.”

Mary has one son who lives in the area with his wife and two daughters, ages 11 and 7, so she is a very busy grandmother, including teaching Vacation Bible School each summer. In talking about her post-retirement life, she shared, “I am blessed to have many wonderful friends, including becoming more involved with my high school alumni. We get together every month, either in St. Joseph or Kansas City.”

When asked what about her she thought her UMKC colleagues might be surprised, she responded, “I am a nine-year breast cancer survivor, and have been a Susan G. Komen Ambassador in Kansas City. I have also traveled a bit since retiring, including Puerto Vallarta, Bermuda, Cancun, New York City; Ithaca, New York; Kingston, Ontario, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, England, and my "trip of a lifetime," Egypt with my son.”

Mary hopes that UMKCRA will be able to reach out to more retirees for their participation in programs, volunteer areas, etc. She believes retirees’ involvement with the University can be beneficial to both the institution and the retirees in so many ways.

All UMKC Retirees Should Consider Joining UMKCRA

By Linda Edwards, Membership Chair, and Dale Neuman, Editor

We are writing to ask you to give UMKCRA a look to see if membership would be of value to you. We think it would for the reasons listed below. You would be joining the more than 360 current members, 75 of whom joined or rejoined in the past 6 months.

Whether you are a recent or past retiree, we feel that the UMKC Retirees Association serves many important functions as well as offering several opportunities each year to attend luncheons and other programs where you can visit with former colleagues as well as be entertained---some at a nominal cost while others are free. For example, at this year’s December luncheon the program will feature Jennifer Martin reflecting on her 30 years of choreographing the "Nutcracker" for the KC Repertory Theatre. She will be collaborating with her son, Barclay Martin, a very talented

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musician. A few years ago, we had special guided tours of the new Kauffman Performing Arts Center and the Stowers Institute for Medical Research. So the variety is fun and informative.

Perhaps most importantly, UMKCRA promotes the needs, interests and welfare of all retired UMKC staff and faculty. To this end, UMKCRA:

- Makes retirees issues known to the University senior management (officers meet three or four times a year in Columbia with other retiree associations officers and the UM President.)
- Advocates for retirees' benefits (the VP for Human Resources is often called upon to answers questions.)
- Recognizes outstanding achievements of retirees (our annual award winners have plaques hung on the wall of the Administrative Center.)
- Fosters communication between retirees and the University (this quarterly newsletter and other avenues of information exchange are available to members.)
- Provides social and learning opportunities for retirees (tours, concerts, lectures and luncheons are our thing.)
- Supports the Retiree Association scholarship in Gerontology (The Board has donated \$5000 to get this started since there are no other UMKC scholarships for study in this field.)

Your new membership will help us continue to have an impact. Joining is easy. An application form is printed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please consider joining us at UMKCRA! We hope to see you soon.

UM System news from recent UM Legislative Updates

Governor Jay Nixon began the process of issuing \$38.5 million in revenue bonds for the renovation of Lafferre Hall at the MU College of Engineering during a board meeting held in the facility on October 16. The bill authorizing the issue was passed by lawmakers in the 2014 legislative session and supported in an appropriations bill signed by the Governor earlier in the year.

Nixon was joined by Attorney General Chris Koster and Lt. Governor Peter Kinder for the ceremonial meeting of the Board of Public Buildings to approve the motion to issue the bonds. MU plans to complete an extensive renovation and rehabilitation of the engineering facility that includes some portions dating back to the 1800s. The newly renovated

areas, which will include classroom and laboratory space, should be completed in December 2016.

In Memoriam for July thru September 2014

University of Missouri-Kansas City

Shirley Anderson on September 15, 2014

Lester Chafetz on July 23, 2014

John Haynes on July 23, 2014

Judith Hileman on July 7, 2014 *

Donald Mocker on August 24, 2014 *

Gary Ritchie on July 12, 2014

Marjorie Sirridge on July 30, 2014

Shirley Weaver on August 8, 2014 *

(Editor's Note: This list provided by UM System HR)

*Denotes UMKCRA Member

Vera Olson is Remembered

(Editor's note: This information is an abbreviation of a message that appeared in an email sent to all UMKC employees on November 5th.)

The Olson family, the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and the entire University of Missouri System, are mourning the loss of a dear mother and grandmother, and one of the university's most loyal supporters. Vera Olson, widow of the late James C. "Jim" Olson, died November 4, 2014 in Kansas City. She was 96.

James Olson served as both chancellor of UMKC, and president of the UM System. The late President Olson said often that the presidency was a team effort that he shared fully with Vera.

Vera said that Jim told her "we would be spending the bulk of our lives on a college campus because he wanted to be a college professor." They did, first at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln and then at UMKC and the UM System. Together, they were always supportive of education.

A memorial service is being planned for late this year. Friends may send memorial contributions in Mrs. Olson's honor to the James and Vera Olson Fund for the Arts, care of UMKC, 5115 Oak St., Suite 229, Kansas City, MO, 64112, or phone 816-235-1566.

Two Articles Reprinted: ‘A Look Back’ and ‘Capital Campaign’

A Look Back at UMKCRA’s Beginnings 25 Years Ago

By Dale Neuman

Actually, this article grew out of what was to be a short note about UMKCRA member and former military officer, Jack Brooks who threw out the first pitch at the Royals game on Memorial Day. As I went to the archives to see when Jack first served on the Board, I discovered he was one of the founders of UMKCRA and served as its first President in 1989-90. That led me to peruse the minutes of that first year and here is what I found – proving once again that history does repeat itself in curious ways. The minutes of the first ever UMKCRA meeting on November 30, 1989 tell us that the group decided to call itself the UMKC Retirees Association and named Jack as interim President. Others in attendance included Jane Adkins, Wheadon Bloch (who served as interim Vice-President), Alice Epp, Wilma Kerstann (who served as interim Secretary), Marion Marshall, Jack Ramsey (who served as interim Treasurer), Paul Roberts, William Strickland and Edwin Westermann.

A Constitution was to be developed for consideration at the April meeting with the officers serving for one year and the board serving on a staggered-term basis. Dues were to be \$5 per year and a newsletter was to go out with an invitation to join in January.

There were to be three committees: Nominations, Retirement Pay and Medical Benefits.

It was also reported that Jack and Wheadon had attended an ad hoc committee meeting in Columbia on November 8, 1989 where representatives from retirees on all four campuses met to share information on topics on mutual interest.

The February 1990 minutes report that UMKCRA now had 121 members, over \$560 in its treasury and the promise of \$300 from the campus administration. They also include planning notes for the first ever April luncheon. The menu would include chicken breast, potatoes, salad, roll, dessert and drink (sound familiar?) with the price to be determined later. And, because there were parking issues, those attending would have to park at 4825 Troost and would be bussed up to Pierson Hall for the event (again sound familiar?).

Clearly the founders and current UMKCRA leaders have had to address similar issues and it is to the credit of the founders that they set a course that has been reasonably easy to follow even if members do not like to park and ride and wonder if there is any other menu.

UMKC Retiree Capital Campaign

By Nancy Mills

The UMKC Retiree Capital Campaign goal is to raise \$5 million by 2016. To date retirees have donated almost \$3.5 million toward that goal. Donations to scholarships and programs are the two largest gift areas followed by unrestricted funds, facilities and faculty staff support. Gifts to the Emeritus College facility fund have reached \$99,175 toward the goal of \$160,000.

Thanks to each of you who have made these achievements possible!

Benefits Committee Report

Bob Piepho, Chair

The major activity of the Benefits Committee this period has been the arranging, coordination, and presentation of an update on the University's 1.) Health benefits program, and 2.) performance and status of the Retirement Trust Fund. The presentation was made on 11-6-14 with Dr. Ed Ellyson serving as Moderator for the program in the Chair's absence. Thanks to Ms. Kim Rudolph and Mr. Ted Stahl from the UMKC Human Resources Office, who assisted with this endeavor. There was an excellent turnout which filled up the Plaza Room of the Administrative Center.

The details of the two presentations are reported in a different section of this Newsletter. However, we will add here that both presentations were done very well, that both presenters fielded a number of questions with expertise and diplomacy, and that a number of favorable comments were received for each presenter.

UMKCRA Communications Committee Report

By Dale Neuman, Chair

The Committee did not meet this quarter. The Chair has corresponded with the Advancement Office about the proposed new formats for the newsletter and they are currently working to prepare "mock up" versions

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of what the email issue for members only and the annual all-retiree mailed out versions would look like.

Cost estimates that do not include postage for the all-retiree issue have been prepared. They are as follows:

First issue template and design planning (includes branding and redesign of newsletter), copyediting and layout: \$1,080 - Issues after that: \$750. This is a once a year charge for the mail out issue. Printing: 300 quantity is \$400 and 900 quantity is \$660.

Since we need about 1,300, I estimate the total to print to be around \$910 based on the unit cost at the \$900 rate. Estimating postage costs at this point is difficult since we do not have weight or size data. But it will be in addition to the $\$750 + \$910 = \$1,660$ for the mail out to all retirees after the \$1080 first issue design cost. The quarterly e-versions will save on postage to the extent we get members to provide their email addresses and keep them current but we would still have printing and mailing costs for those members who do not provide emails for the other quarterly issues.

And, part of the \$3400 we get from the Chancellor each year is to help underwrite the expense associated with representing all retirees which does cover the current annual issue.

For comparative purposes, UMKCRA has spent between \$2,700 and \$2,800 per year on all printing and mailing costs (includes other mailings as well as the newsletter) doing business as we have done it.

Finance Committee

By Ted Sheldon, Chair

The UMKCRA Finance Committee met on October 21, 2014. The only item of business was the need to draft changes to the UMKCRA Constitution and Bylaws to allow for the change of the fiscal year as passed at the May 2014 Board of Directors meeting. At its May 7, 2014 meeting the Board of Directors passed the following measure on recommendation of the Finance Committee. “Change the UMKCRA fiscal year from calendar year to match the University’s fiscal year, i.e., July 1 through June 30, with an effective date of July 1, 2014. The change in fiscal year will not affect officer terms, which will remain on calendar year basis.”

The need for this action resulted from the move of UMKCRA accounts to the University and made the UMKCRA fiscal year parallel with that of

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the University. It has been pointed out that this action violates the UMKCRA Constitution and Bylaws. Article III, Section 9 of the Constitution states, “Membership Year and Fiscal Year. The membership year and the fiscal year shall be concurrent, beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31.”

To remedy this situation, the Finance Committee proposes the following changes to the UMKCRA Constitution and Bylaws.

Change the UMKCRA Constitution to read: “Article III, Section 9. Membership Year and Fiscal Year. The membership year shall begin on January 1 and ending on December 31.”

Change the UMKCRA Bylaws, Section 1. Responsibilities. The Board of Directors as follows: Add a new paragraph F. to read: “F. with the approval of the Membership determine the fiscal year for the Association.”

The Finance Committee recommends these changes for consideration by the Board of Directors and the membership.

Membership Committee

By Linda Edwards, Chair

Two letters recruiting members were sent this summer by the Membership Committee. The first was sent to members whose memberships had lapsed; the second was sent encouraging newly retired UMKC employees from 2012 to the present to join the Retirees Association. These letters resulted in a gain of 75 new or renewing members, our membership is now at 363, of which 130 are annual and 233 are lifetime members. The gain in membership resulted in an increase in dues income of \$3,370.

Official Notice to Members

Items to be voted on at the Membership Business Meeting on December 6, 2014

Slate of Officers for 2015:

- Vice President/President Elect: Dr. Nancy Mills
- Secretary (2 year term): Ms. Rita Messina

Board members for three year terms (2015-2017):

- Ms. Rose Bell (Retired from A&S Advising Office)
- Dr. Charles Cobb (Retired from School of Dentistry)
- Ms. Mary McCamy (Retired from School of Medicine staff)

Constitutional Amendment:

Change the UMKCRA Constitution to read: “Article III, Section 9. Membership Year and Fiscal Year. The membership year shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.”

By-Laws Amendment:

Change the UMKCRA Bylaws, Section 1. Responsibilities. The Board of Directors as follows: Add a new paragraph F. to read: “F. with the approval of the Membership determine the fiscal year for the Association.”

Editor’s Note:

Under Article IV, Section 10 of the UMKCRA Constitution, the Board may recommend dues changes that must be approved by a majority the association’s members present and voting at a meeting of the association. The board at its August 2014 meeting approved the following recommendations for dues. (This is not an amendment to the Constitution but merely a business item to be dealt with under its provisions.)

Increase membership dues from \$10 to \$20 for Annual membership and from \$100 to \$200 for Lifetime membership. Cost increases will become effective January 1, 2015.

UMKC Retirees Association Treasurer’s Report

By Ted Sheldon, Treasurer

This report covers the first three months of the 2014-2015 fiscal year, July 1 through September 30, 2014. The Association finds itself in reasonably good financial condition as of September 30, 2014. See Section 1 on the accompanying Statement of Financial Position below. Further, the Association has seen substantial success in its efforts to rebuild income from memberships. Thanks go to the Membership Committee for their effective response to the problem of declining membership.

On September 30, 2014, the Association held total assets of \$15,811.42. This amount included \$9,686.04 in the Investment Account and \$6,125.38 in the Operating Account. One year earlier, on June 30, 2013, total assets amounted to \$14,147.71 with the Investment Account holding \$8,629.48 and the Operating Account holding \$5,518.23. Thus the Investment Account grew at an annual rate of 12.25 percent, and the balance in the Operating Account improved by \$607.15.

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Comparing actual to budgeted income, actual income rebounded to \$2,580.00 in 2014 from \$120.00 in 2013 at this point in the fiscal year.

Income this year exceeded expenses by \$2,063.76. One factor dominated these results. Efforts to increase membership income were quite successful.

It is worth remembering that the Association has completed its pledge to contribute \$5,000 to the UMKC Retirees Gerontology Scholarship Fund. This obligation was paid from the Operating Account thereby preserving the corpus of the Investment Account for further purposes.

This report is based on the July 1 through June 30 fiscal year passed by the Board of Directors at its May 2014 meeting. However, that action to change the fiscal year created a violation of the UMKCRA Constitution.

The Finance Committee report for this meeting contains recommendations to remedy this situation.

This report does not cover scholarship funds sponsored by the UMKC Retiree's Association and administered by UMKC.

Statement of Financial Position

30-Sep-14

1. Statement of Financial Position

Assets:

Operating Account	\$ 6,125.38
UMKC Retirees Investment Account (UMKC Agency account)	\$ 9,686.04
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 15,811.42</u></u>

Liabilities:

Misc. Liabilities	\$ -
NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 15,811.42</u></u>

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2. Actual to Budget Comparison as of Sept 30, 2014			
	Year	Budget	Over/(Under)
	to-Date	FY14-15	Budget
<u>BEGINNING BALANCE,</u> <u>July 1, 2014</u>	\$4,061.62	\$4,061.62	0.00
<u>REVENUE</u>			
Membership			
-- Annual	\$480.00	\$2,500.00	(2,020.00)
-- Life	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	1,000.00
Gifts	\$0.00	\$50.00	(50.00)
Event Revenue	\$100.00	\$3,000.00	(2,900.00)
UMKC Support	\$0.00	\$3,400.00	(3,400.00)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,580.00	\$9,950.00	(7,370.00)
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Dues and Subscriptions	\$40.00	\$200.00	(160.00)
Speaker Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
Meals & Entertainment	\$97.97	\$3,800.00	(3,702.03)
Gifts & Appreciations	\$0.73	\$220.00	(220.00)
Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	(1,200.00)
Postage & Delivery	\$78.54	\$2,330.00	(2,251.46)
Printing & Reproduction	\$218.33	\$2,000.00	(1,781.67)
Website	\$0.00	\$100.00	(100.00)
Travel	\$0.00	\$300.00	(300.00)
Other	\$81.40	\$0.00	81.40
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$516.24	\$10,150.00	(9,633.76)
ENDING CASH BALANCE 9/30/14	\$6,125.38	\$3,861.62	(2,263.76)

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3. Operating Statement - Year-to-Date Comparison, Sept 30, 2014		
	Sep-14	Sep-13
BEGINNING BALANCE, July 1	\$ 4,061.62	\$ 8,189.07
REVENUE		
Membership		
-- Annual	\$ 480.00	\$ 20.00
-- Life	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 100.00
Gifts	\$ -	\$ -
Event Revenue	\$ 100.00	\$ -
UMKC Support	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,580.00	\$ 120.00
EXPENSES		
Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 40.00	\$ 133.34
Speaker Fees	\$ -	\$ -
Meals & Entertainment	\$ 97.97	\$ 75.00
Gifts & Appreciations	\$ -	\$ -
Office Supplies	\$ -	\$ -
Postage & Delivery	\$ 78.54	\$ 82.50
Printing & Reproduction	\$ 218.33	\$ -
Website	\$ -	\$ -
Travel	\$ -	\$ -
Other	\$ 81.40	\$ 2,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 516.24	\$ 2,790.84
ENDING BALANCE, June 30	\$ 6,125.38	\$ 5,518.23

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.

UMKC Retirees Association Newsletter – November 2014

Editor's Note:

Since this issue of the UMKCRA Newsletter is going to both members of UMKCRA and to all other UMKC Retirees, I urge non-members to consider joining UMKCRA and adding your talents and interests to our organization. The cost is only \$10 to try us out for a year IF YOU JOIN BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2015. See notice of proposed new rates effective as of that date.

I also remind members who chose the annual membership option that your dues are now due since we operate on January to December calendar year basis. If you have forgotten whether you are an annual member or a life member, check your mailing label. An "L" on it indicates life membership.

YES! I'd like to join or renew my membership in the UMKC Retirees Association

- Renew – Annual Member (\$10 annually)
- New – Annual Member (\$10 annually)
- Join – Pre-Retirement Member (\$10 annually)
- New – Life Member (\$100 one time)

For definitions of Membership categories see UMKCRA Constitution / By-Laws

(Note: To be eligible as a Pre-retirement member, one must be eligible to retire from UMKC and be over age 55.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

MasterCard, Visa, Discover or AMEX (Circle One)

Credit Card Number _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____

Or send checks payable to the:

UMKC Retirees Association, 5115 Oak Street, AC 300-B, Kansas City, MO 64112
Questions? Please Call Kim Rudolph at 816-235-1563

UMKCRA HOLIDAY RECEPTION AND LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2014

- 11:00 a.m. Reception
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. Business Meeting
- 12:30 p.m. Overview of the Rep’s “Christmas Carol”
by Jennifer Martin and Barclay Martin.

PIERSON AUDITORIUM

Inside the Atterbury Student Success Center
5000 Holmes, Kansas City, MO 64110

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

UMKCRA HOLIDAY RECEPTION AND LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 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
5115 Oak Street, AC 300-B, Kansas City, MO 64112

Please RSVP by Monday, December 1, 2014



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

