Leadership Meeting Report
By Mary Anne Morgenegg, UMKCRA President

A Leadership Meeting was held in Columbia on April 29, 2014, with UM System President Wolfe. UMKCRA’s Mary Anne Morgenegg and Bob Piepho met with President Wolfe and the representatives of other retiree associations. Melanie Barger was in attendance to discuss the system’s retiree newsletter and some of the issues they have encountered. Melanie received a lot of feedback asking if the newsletter could be formatted differently. The first newsletter came out recently.

Before President Wolfe arrived, there was a long discussion about COLA or lack thereof. Attendees from Rolla were very concerned about whether cost of living was ever going to be discussed again, especially because their membership took offence with the fact that Gary Pinkel, the MU football coach, received $5.1 million in pay. However, it was stated that this was not University money.

Members discussed a report that would tally retiree benefits and cost of living pieces for three years. The report would be used to determine if an increase in retiree benefits was possible. That report is no longer compiled. When President Wolfe arrived at the meeting, he acknowledged that the retirees associations would like to have that report. Given the current financial situation, however, a COLA for retirees is not a possibility. Editor’s note: It may be that what they were discussing was a policy statement adopted many years ago that called for retirees who had not chosen the COLA option when they retired to still get 2/3 of either the average pay raise for active duty employees or 2/3 of the increase in the cost of living index whichever was less. It is not clear if this policy was ever employed but there was one across the board increase of about 1% about 10 years ago but none since. There has been little support for this
among those who must adopt budgets since each retiree could protect themselves against COLA costs by purchasing that option when they retire. Also, the 1% raise for retirees about 10 years ago cost the UM System over $17,000,000 (as I recall) since the actuaries required that its cost be amortized over the life expectancies of all those who were its beneficiaries.

**Total Rewards Task Force**
Renetta Gallup, Director of Retirement and Analytics, and Rita Bowie, Manager of Benefits and Wellness programs, reviewed the findings and recommendations of the Total Rewards Task Force. The task force’s following eight recommendations, along with details and related research, are presented in the [Task Force's full report](#), which can be accessed through this link. If you are reading an electronic version of this newsletter.

1. Treat pay and benefits as interrelated parts of the overall Total Rewards strategy.
2. Establish a benefits rate cap.
3. Increase flexibility within the Total Rewards programs.
4. Utilize medical plan options to encourage healthy behavior and efficient use of healthcare services.
5. Leverage marketplace opportunities for retiree medical benefits.
6. Evaluate additional retirement plan options.
7. Evaluate staff time-off plans.
8. Invest in communication and education about Total Rewards that promotes informed decision-making.

The two recommendations that could directly impact retirees are the benefit rate cap and leveraging the marketplace for retiree medical benefits. The University contribution rate for benefits supported by the campuses is currently 28% and rising. If the University continues funding at the same level, the rate will rise to 40% within the next several years. That rate is non-sustainable. The recommendation is to set the amount of support, preferably below the cap. Also the task force is looking at new health plans available through private wellness initiatives that foster a more holistic view of health care and support. They also will be looking at the insurance exchanges. President Wolfe stated that these changes will affect future retirees and will not necessarily affect current retirees.
Rose Porter, the retired Dean of Nursing from University of Missouri-Columbia, is the retirees’ representative on the task force. Please review the report and send her any feedback.

It was also stated that there will be no big changes in the University health care plan for November 2014.

Other
It was reported that the 50/50 matches for funding new construction seem to be proceeding and are gaining support. Each campus has projects that, after raising 50% of the proposal’s necessary funding from the private sector, seek the remaining 50% from the Legislature. UMKC’s proposal is to construct a new building that would serve as a business incubator for the entrepreneurial sector. All revenue and expense streams of the projects are evaluated.

*Editor’s Note: The following discussion is Adapted from the May 19, 2014, “Legislative Update” an on-line publication of the University of Missouri.*

University slated for 5.2 percent increase
This year, the University of Missouri System sought an increase to its core operating budget as a top priority for the legislative session. The FY 2015 budget bills, passed on May 8 and awaiting the Governor's signature, include an overall 5 percent increase in a pool to be awarded based on how institutions met performance measures.

Because the University of Missouri System has met all of its performance measures for the year, it stands to receive an increase of $21 million in its operating budget, or a 5.2 percent increase. This represents the first time since Fiscal Year 2001 that the University received an operating appropriation increase above 5 percent. Overall this year, lawmakers approved more than $603 million for UM including operating funding and capital support through bonding, general revenue and surplus revenue funds. This exceeds the recent high water mark from Fiscal Year 2001, when lawmakers approved more than $500 million in operating and capital support. Governor Nixon must sign the bills before the current fiscal year ends on June 30. He retains line-item veto authority on budget bills and could elect to veto or withhold funding of certain items should...
state revenues come in below previously agreed-upon estimates. As of the end of April, revenues have only grown by one-half of a percent, which is below the Governor's 2.8 percent estimate for the current fiscal year.

**Bonding bill passes**
A top priority for the 2014 legislative session was funding to support 50/50 capital match projects on the four campuses. In the final weeks of the session, lawmakers approved bills that could result in more than $161 million in crucial capital improvements for the matching projects and other maintenance and repair needs across the campuses.

On the last day of the legislative session, the House of Representatives passed the revenue bonding bill, and sent it to the Governor. The bill, sponsored by Senator Mike Parson (R-Bolivar), increases the cap on the amount of revenue bonds that may be issued to fund maintenance and repair projects on public university campuses, among other state buildings. The cap for higher education bonding is increased by $200 million to a total of $370 million. Sponsors of the bill plan to create a project list before the legislature returns next January.

The increase in the cap also makes additional bonding possible for more than $90 million in UM-related projects that were included in the capital improvement bill, which was passed the week before session ended. In addition to funding 50/50 capital match projects on each UM campus, the bill authorizes $38.5 million in bonds for MU's Lafferre Hall, $19 million for the UMKC School of Medicine, $25 million for a new State Historical Society building, and $8 million for a business incubator in St. Louis.

The passage of both bills represents the first time the General Assembly has passed significant capital appropriations for the University of Missouri since FY 2001, when the System received a total of $74.3 million. The bills now await the Governor's approval.

**Scholarships get attention, support in 2014 session**
Lawmakers increased funding for several key scholarships this year, and authorized a new loan forgiveness program aimed at agriculture students. The Access Missouri need-based scholarship program received an $11.5 million increase over current year funding, which will bring total funding to $68.7 million. More than 10,000 UM students receive these awards.
Missouri law authorizes awards of up to $2,850 for Access scholarships, but award amounts have been less than the full amount based on appropriations and the number of students qualifying.

The Bright Flight merit-based scholarship program received a $7 million increase over current year funding, bringing its total to $22.7 million. More than 3,000 UM students receive these awards, which should be fully funded next year at the statutory $3,000 level for students in the top three percent of standardized test takers and $1,000 for students in the fourth or fifth percentile. Students who are majoring in an agriculture-related field and work in agriculture or dairy operations during the summers can qualify for an annual $5,000 forgivable loan under a plan approved as part of an omnibus agriculture bill in the session's final days. If students leave the state after graduation they would have to repay the loan. The scholarship was part of a larger dairy package that was sponsored by Representative Casey Guernsey (R-Bethany). Also contained in HB 1326 was the removal of a sunset clause on The Large Animal Veterinary Student Loan Program, from which a number of MU Veterinary students benefit.

**Higher education omnibus bill includes resource allocation model**

After several years of work, a resource allocation model for public higher education institutions has now been approved by lawmakers. The model, which suggests future funding based in part on performance and institutional mission, was incorporated into an omnibus higher education bill sponsored by Senator David Pearce (R-Warrensburg).

The Council on Public Higher Education (COPHE), which represents the public four-year institutions, developed a recommended funding allocation model several years ago that served as a basis for the legislation. Part of new funding in the future will be based on meeting performance measures. Lawmakers also added language requesting that institutions track whether graduates receive jobs related to their degree level.

The omnibus bill also establishes the Missouri Advisory Board for Educator Preparation to advise the State Board of Education and the Coordinating Board for Higher Education on the quality of teacher education programs.
UMKC Retirees Association Scholarship
By Linda Edwards

Your Retirees Association has recently set aside funds to establish an endowment to fund a student scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded to a graduate or undergraduate student in the field of Gerontology whose academic interests further knowledge in any of the various disciplines that impact aging. An example could be a nursing student researching optimal diet and nutrition for people with arthritis.

UMKC currently offers an undergraduate minor in Gerontology and a graduate certificate in Gerontology at both the M.A. and Ph.D. levels. Students pursuing the graduate certificate come from a variety of academic disciplines including business, sociology, psychology, law, medicine, nursing and dentistry. Currently, there are no scholarships available specifically for students in these programs.

For many reasons, this scholarship is a natural one for UMKCRA to sponsor. We need your support to fully fund the endowment so that we can begin to award this to students! Please consider a gift to the association to help make this a reality. Donors can write a check to the UMKC Retirees Association, noting "UMKCRA Scholarship" on the memo line. Donations of any amount will be greatly appreciated. Checks should be mailed to: UMKC Retirees Association, Scholarship Fund, 5115 Oak Street, AC 300 B, Kansas City, MO 64112.

Committee Reports

Benefits Committee
By Bob Piepho,
Chair Benefits Committee

The Chair announced the committee’s membership in addition to the chair: Ed Ellyson, Carol Tally-Davis, Mike Wood and Ted Stahl (ex officio). They will attempt to meet the elements of their charge in the By-Laws to keep the membership up to date on benefits and contact information about benefits, scheduling information meetings on campus, monitoring the benefits plans, advocating desirable changes, keeping the benefits information on the UMKCRA website up to date and
representing UMKCRA at U-Wide benefits meetings. He also reported on the discussion of the meeting with the President where it was noted that the future of UM plans will have to be in accord with the Affordable Care Act and that there could be a surcharge on the UM plans if their costs do not meet required norms in the law. He encourages those with questions to contact him at: piephor@umkc.edu

Finance Committee
By Ted Shelden, Chair Finance Committee

The Committee met on April 10, 2014, to discuss an agenda of issues prepared by the Treasurer.

It was noted that dues income during 2013 fell well below budgeted amounts and below receipts from previous years. It also was noted that the year-end balance in the Operating Account had fallen from $7,993.74 on December 31, 2012, to $4,849.35 on December 31, 2013. The possible reasons for these circumstances were discussed by the Committee, many of which probably fall into the realm of conjecture. At its last meeting, the Board held a discussion about the purposes of UMKCRA. Based on that discussion, the Committee believes that activities to maintain and enhance membership were compromised in 2013 by confusion regarding a) what kind of organization UMKCRA wishes to be, and b) uncertainty about the purposes of UMKCRA. To resolve some of this ambiguity, the Finance Committee recommends the following.

ACTION ITEM: The Finance Committee recommends that the UMKCRA fiscal year be changed to begin on July 1 and end on June 30, matching the fiscal year of the University.

ACTION ITEM: The Finance Committee recommends the following:
That UMKCRA is a membership organization closely affiliated with the UMKC wherein members pay dues to partially support the work of the Association;
That a vigorous membership enhancement program be conducted annually explaining the purposes of the Association and their value to UMKC retirees and soliciting membership;
That an intensive and thoughtful examination be undertaken to reaffirm the purposes of the Association.
ACTION ITEM: The Finance Committee recommends that a payment of $2,500 be made now to the Retirees Scholarship Fund, completing the pledge of $5,000 to that fund made by the Board of Directors.

Membership Committee
By Linda Edwards,
Chair, Membership Committee

There are 167 lapsed members within the last three years. At present there are 45 current dues-paying members and 206 lifetime members, for a total of 251 members.

It is important for UMKCRA to have current retiree information but it remains difficult to obtain lists of retired personnel. Apparently, at one time, HR included information about UMKCRA in retiree packets, although that may not currently be the case. It was also mentioned that, in the past, a UMKCRA representative attended HR retiree workshops where UMKCRA brochures were distributed that explained the organization. There are still a number of UMKCRA brochures available. However, if the dues structure is altered these would be out of date. Brochures could possibly be distributed with the November newsletter that goes to all retirees.

Nomination Committee
By Pat Hovis-French,
Chair, Nomination Committee

The Nominations Committee met before the May quarterly Board Meeting and compiled a preliminary list of potential nominees for the open UMKCRA Board member and officer positions for 2015 and will be contacting these retirees over the next few weeks to see whether they are willing to have their names added to the slate. UMKCRA Board members serve three-year terms, attend quarterly meetings of the Board, and participate in planning activities and events for UMKCRA members and all UMKC retirees. If you are interested in serving on the UMKCRA Board or have questions about the responsibilities, please contact Pat Hovis-French, the current chair of the Nominations Committee at hovisp@umkc.edu or give her a call at 816-235-9706. Maybe you feel
you are not ready to serve on the Board, but might like to serve on a committee. Let us know that as well as we have need for members on several committees each year. The Committee will present the slate to the Board at its August meeting.

**Program Committee**
By John Ditto, Chair, Program Committee

The Chair stated that the Program Committee plans to meet on May 13 at 10:00 in the Loose Park Room. The committee will discuss the holiday luncheon and any other events that could be of interest to members. The last-minute venue change for the Spring Luncheon was discussed and credited for a lower than average attendance. The Student Union bore the extra cost for the change in location.

The 2015 Spring Luncheon date has been changed to March 28, 2015, so as not to interfere with Easter and Passover. President Morgenegg will contact Pierson regarding the date change.

**Recognition Award Committee**
By Pat Hovis-French, Chair, Recognition Committee

The first priority for the Recognition Committee is to facilitate the hanging of the plaque on which the names of the first four recipients of the UMKCRA Recognition Awards are inscribed is appropriately located in the UMKC Administrative Center building. The tentative location is on the 3rd floor, in the hallway leading into the Advancement section of the floor, and facing the Alumni Awards photos.

The second priority for the Recognition Committee, of course, is to seek nominations for the 2015 UMKCRA Recognition Awards. Past recipients are: Dan Jaffe (2012), Richard Gentile (2013), and Ross Stephens and Leo Sweeney (2014). The Committee is seeking nominations for both retired faculty and retired staff worthy of this special award. Two awards may be made each year. Recipients are recognized at the UMKCRA Spring Luncheon. Begin thinking now of retirees you think deserve
recognition by UMKCRA for their outstanding contributions to 1) the effective operation of UMKCRA, 2) the welfare of all retirees in the UM System or 3) the UMKC-Kansas City community. The deadline for nominations is December 1, 2014.

Other Business
The Board approved a motion to complete the $2,500 pledge to the UMKCRA Scholarship Fund and to take that amount from the Operating Account. During further discussion, the Treasurer pointed out that the Investment Account could be utilized in the future should the Operating Account fall short.

The Finance Committee and the Membership Committee will meet to look at the dues structure.

Emeritus College Website Development
Jakob Waterborg is in charge of developing the website for the Emeritus College. He has worked with HR and Faculty Affairs in an effort to determine who will keep track of the list of emeriti. It is anticipated that September will be the start date for the Emeritus College. He hopes to use the identification of the Emeritus College as an academic unit and become part of the Dean’s Council. He has already assisted UMKCRA by using his network contacts to remove the old UMKCRA website from the UMKC server.

UMKC Retirees Association Treasurer’s Report, May 4, 2014
By Ted Sheldon,
Treasurer

This report covers the first quarter of the 2014 fiscal year. The fiscal year of the UMKC Retirees Association is the calendar year. As of March 31, 2014, the UMKC Retirees Association finds itself in reasonably good financial condition (see Table 1: Balance Sheet below), though facing declining revenues. On March 31, 2014, the Association held total assets of $17,315.07. This amount included $9,508.07 in the Investment Account and $7,807.00 in the Operating Account. One year earlier, on March 31, 2013, total assets amounted to $14,992.09, including $8,350.16 in the Investment Account and $6,641.93 in the Operating Account. At first glance, this amounts to a net increase in total assets of $2,322.98, and
an increase of $1,165.07 in the Operating Account. It must be noted, however, that these figures present an overly optimistic view. Income in 2014 includes $3,400 more than 2013 (Chancellor’s Support) and does not include about $900 found in the 2013 figures (newsletter expenses). When these entries are added, the real 2014 balance in the Operating Account shows nearly a 50 percent decline compared to 2013. The rather substantial loss in the Operating Account was partially offset by the $1,157.91 increase in the Investment Account balance.

TABLE 1: Balance Sheet - As of 3/31/2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Account</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Bank Accounts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMKCRA Investment Acct</td>
<td>$ 9,508.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMKCRA Operating Acct</td>
<td>7,807.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</td>
<td>$ 17,315.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL ASSETS $ 17,315.07

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LIABILITIES $ -

EQUITY $ 17,315.07

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY $ 17,315.07

RETIREES 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. Between April 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014 the balance in the Investment Account has increased by $1,157.91. This amounts to a return of 13.8 percent for the year.

OPERATING ACCOUNT (See Table 2 Below)

The balance in the Operating Account amounted to $7,807.00 on March 31, 2014, an increase of $1,165.07 compared to the same date in 2013. As Table 2 shows, year-to-date income amounted to $4,520.62; expenses for the year amounted to $3,098.27. Membership dues continued to decline
precipitously during the first quarter of 2014. Two retirees paid life dues, and 10 people paid annual dues during the quarter. The generally low level of expenses paid out continues to help accommodate lagging income.

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

**TABLE 2: Income/Expense, 2014 – Fiscal Year through March 31.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Jan 1 through March 31, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chancellor</td>
<td>$3,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in Value</td>
<td>-188.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events- Receipts &amp; Fees</td>
<td>680.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>329.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Dues Paid – Annual</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Dues Paid – Life</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td>$4,520.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals &amp; Entertainment</td>
<td>$1,292.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
<td>129.55</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>1,422.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OVERALL TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$3,098.27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The Board pledged a contribution to the UMKCRA Scholarship Fund of $5,000. $2,500 remains to be paid to fulfill this pledge. The Finance Committee will make recommendations to help with this matter.

This report does not include scholarship funds sponsored by the UMKC Retirees Association and administered by UMKC.
A Tour of UMKC’s Harry S. Truman Center for Governmental Affairs
By Dale Neuman

If you look on a campus map to find the center, you will not find it. Why? Because it exists in its programs and not in a place. Yes, the director has an office but it is a faculty office. And his part-time assistant shares an office with adjunct faculty elsewhere in the same building. But, you say you have not heard of the programs that locate and identify its existence? Well, that is the purpose of this tour and I will be your tour guide.

All tours start with a history and so will this one. President Harry Truman authorized the Center’s creation in a letter to the then UMKC Chancellor James C. Olson in 1969. Over the years committees met and recommended ways to implement the idea but ran into financial and jurisdictional hurdles at some points and campus programmatic, mission emphasis and leadership changes at others. Finally, in 2006-2007 the then Chancellor and the Provost along with the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences decided to try to make it happen. Old committee files were revisited and persons who had served on some of those committees were invited (along with others) to once more visit the idea. The result was that the Center was activated in 2007.

In 2007, two other signal events took place. The first was the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Truman Presidential Library and Museum in which it was agreed that the two parties would cooperate in programs of mutual interest. The other was the inaugural lecture in the Truman Legacy Series presented by Frank Kelly, a UKC alumnus who was in the first graduating class and who had been a speech writer for Truman’s 1948 presidential election campaign. That was followed in 2008 by a lecture by Ken Heckler who served as a staff person to President Truman from 1949-1952 (and as an occasional escort for Margaret at important events) before spending a long career in the U.S. Congress to be followed by another long term of service as Secretary of State of West Virginia. And many speakers have followed since. For more examples, see the Truman Center web site under “Lectures” at http://cas.umkc.edu/TrumanCenter/lectures.asp.
In 2008, the Truman Center sent its first two summer Truman Bootstrap Interns to serve in Washington in congressional offices. One worked for Representative Cleaver and the other for Senator McCaskill. These competitive internships are 100% funded on the premise that many otherwise qualified UMKC students could not ordinarily hope to have such an opportunity. Except for 2009, this program has continued each summer and again in 2014 there will be two UMKC students working the halls of Congress. This year they will also be part of a UM system summer intern program and live in housing with student interns from the other campuses of the University.

Also, in 2008 (and again in 2010) the Truman Center brought Harry Truman to life (in the person of Professor Bill Worley) to talk with alumni attending their reunions about what it was like to be at UKC to get his honorary degree just after attending the signing of the United Nations Charter in San Francisco and just before leaving for the Potsdam Conference.

Since Truman was centrally involved in the start-up of the United Nations and a champion of its importance, a number of the Truman Center’s public programs have focused on aspects of the UN, often in partnership with the Greater Kansas City United Nations Association and the Presidential Library.

Other partners over the years have been the Kansas City Public Library (the Truman Forum of the Plaza Branch has been a wonderful venue), the League of Women Voters and the Mid-America Regional Council of Governments. These have fit nicely into the Center’s efforts to address all of its initiatives that honor Truman’s legacy by undertaking programs related to other causes that President Truman found worthy to champion before, during and after his service as President: civic education, civic engagement and responsible local governance.

And, finally, here we are at the office of the director and the door says Dale Neuman, Professor Emeritus of Political Science. I hope you have enjoyed this tour and look forward to your attendance at some of the upcoming Truman Center events. If you want to be on our mailing list, send me your postal address or email address. If you can’t make the
events, you may find a video of them on our website. Here is a video of Harry Truman back on campus in 2010. 
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oc_mCXLi2yo&feature=player_embe dded

Editor’s Note: The next Truman Center event is June 3rd at the National Archives on Pershing Road (near Union Station). It is titled: Presidents and the CIA from Truman to Obama. The speaker is a former CIA analyst and now on the adjunct faculty at Johns Hopkins. A reception starts at 6 and the lecture at 6:30.