

First Five Fridays: A vlog conversation with UM System President Mun Choi
Transcript of Episode 2 – *Collaboration*
March 10, 2017

Fougere: What drew you to the UM System?

Choi: Well, the UM System is a top flagship university. It comprises of four different campuses with very unique offerings that meet the needs of Missouri, the nation, and the world. It's a university system that is recognized for outstanding research, that makes a difference in, not only in the marketplace, when it comes to science and engineering, but also when it comes to enhancing the understanding of the human spirit. The type of innovation that is needed as a university is happening right here at the University of Missouri System.

Fougere: You know, one of the key points also you stress is collaboration.

Choi: That's right.

Fougere: How will you work and collaborate with the chancellors on the campuses?

Choi: I think it's important that we all recognize that together, we can become a stronger university by collaborating. So the collaborating not only on the type of educational opportunities that are provided by online education, distance learning, collaborations in research but also collaboration when it comes to engaging our partners throughout the state. And that comes with leadership from the campuses, but that's gonna be a very important hallmark of this new approach in which we bring greater value to the university.

Fougere: How will you go about developing your long-term vision for the UM System and when would you plan to share that with the university community?

Choi: As soon as possible. But obviously, as a flagship university, the vision is to pursue very innovative research, provide high quality education that is affordable, to ensure positive student outcomes when it comes to debt at graduation, as well as time to graduation, and the placement of our students in the economy, as well as professional studies and graduate studies. All of these things are measurable. And we want to be considered, by using those metrics, to be one of the top universities in the country.