

First Five Fridays: A vlog conversation with UM System President Mun Choi

Transcript of Episode 4 – *UM System Role*

March 24, 2017

John Fougere: How do you view the UM System's role, especially compared to the role of the campuses?

President Choi: The role of the UM System is really to provide outstanding opportunities for the campuses, to provide the best education that we can, and also to enable faculty members to pursue their scholarship and their research. So, in many ways, we see ourselves as stewards of finding resources, reallocating those resources so that the critical mission of the University when it comes to research, education and outreach are met.

John Fougere: What are some of the opportunities that you intend to pursue that will move us toward that vision as you start your tenure as president?

President Choi: I think it's very important for the system to focus on providing new resources, new revenues that we can use to invest in the academic research programs. So, partnering with industry, developing a more vibrant, philanthropic program, as well as finding ways in which we can be more entrepreneurial, creating new revenues that we can put back into the academic and research programs at the university.

John Fougere: That's certainly one of the very impressive aspects of your time at UConn, as people look back on your leadership?

President Choi: Right, that's right. We really had a very strong partnership that we developed, working with not only our alumni, who are very interested in supporting the exciting, innovative, educational research programs. But also with industry. Industry members are very interested in workforce development, but as well as developing partnerships that can lead to breakthroughs that make a difference in their marketplace. So, those are the types of opportunities that we would like to pursue with companies and alums throughout this great state of Missouri.