President’s Session – President Mun Choi

President Choi heard updates and concerns from representatives from each university and shared updates on university initiatives and priorities. Topics included, but were not limited to, the FY25 state budget, enrollment trends systemwide in the context of ongoing issues with FAFSA filing, protests locally and nationally related to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, and concerns about increased administrative workload for faculty members due to centralized/shared services.

Legislative Updates – Dustin Schnieders, Assistant Vice President of Government Relations

AVP Schnieders provided legislative updates. Schnieders discussed the FY2025 budget noting the Senate Appropriations Committee’s restoration of a 3% core funding increase for the UM System and funding for MoExcels, MU and UMKC Extension programs, and other initiatives. He also provided an update on bills that could impact higher education institutions. The bills cover topics related to diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives; authority to offer and confer professional and doctoral degrees; and proposed changes to the Missouri core transfer curriculum.

Curators’ Lunch Session – Curator Jeanne Sinquefield

Curator Sinquefield discussed her role as the Academic, Student Affairs, Research and Economic Development (ASARED) Committee Chair; focused on the importance of the faculty and their impact on student learning and curriculum development; and shared her vision of “the university of the future” with IFC members.

Research Misconduct – Michele Kennett, Associate Vice Chancellor of Research Compliance; and Paul Maguffee, Deputy General Counsel

AVC Kennett discussed the proposed revisions to CRR 420.010, Research Misconduct. IFC members provided feedback to the proposed changes. Counsel Maguffee agreed to provide IFC with an updated copy of the revisions to allow IFC members the opportunity to submit a redlined version highlighting further suggested changes.

Title IX & Fair Labor Standards – Katharine Bunn, Senior Counsel; Marsha Fischer, UM Vice President of Human Resources/CHRO/CCEO; Melinda Adams, UM Assistant Vice President of Human Resources; and Andy Hayes, Vice Chancellor for Civil Rights and Title IX

VP Fischer informed members of federal changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) that increases the minimum salary for employees who are classified as exempt from overtime. The University already meets the requirements for the July 1, 2024 deadline and is beginning work to comply with the January 1, 2025 deadline.

Counsel Bunn and VC Hayes discussed the federal changes to Title IX, which will take effect August 1, 2024. The new rule will extend jurisdiction to outside the US, specify who must report and the information that has to be reported. These changes will result in a new Title IX training being rolled out sometime during the fall semester.

AVP Adams discussed proposed changes to leave policies for postdoctoral fellows. The proposed policy would establish paid time off (PTO) leave for 12-month postdoctoral fellows.

Reflections and Wrap Up

Members elected UMSL Associate Professor of Accounting Pamela Stuerke as IFC Chair for the 2024-2025 session. The Cabinet’s next meeting will be held in person in August.

Updated: 05/13/2024