



University of Missouri System

Intercampus Faculty Cabinet Annual Retreat Meeting Minutes August 5-6, 2024

Welcome, Introductions and Setting Expectations

Pamela Stuerke, IFC Chair

John Middleton, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief of Staff, UM

Chair Stuerke kicked off the meeting, beginning with introductions for the benefit of newly selected IFC members. The group discussed expectations, including but not limited to, matters of confidentiality and what can and cannot be shared outside of IFC meetings. AVP John Middleton provided an overview of how the UM Office of Academic Affairs supports the group.

Proposed Changes to Research Misconduct CRR

John Middleton, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief of Staff, UM

Steven Chaffin, Academic Affairs Program Director, UM

Middleton and Chaffin provided an overview of the faculty feedback received on the proposed rewriting of the CRR 420.010 (Research Misconduct), including a discussion of how each individual piece of feedback was handled. In addition, the group discussed suggested changes to the Faculty Bylaws at MU, S&T, and UMSL that would better align the bylaws with the proposed changes to 420.010. IFC members agreed that any revisions to the faculty bylaws could occur separately from the approval of the revisions to CRR 420.010. Middleton shared plans to put the proposed changes to 420.010 forward for approval at the November Board of Curators meeting.

Digital Accessibility Regulations

Amber Cheek, Director of Accessibility and ADA Coordinator, UM/MU

Cheek provided an overview of federal regulations pertaining to digital accessibility that will have implications for the UM System and universities nationwide. Cheek provided an overview of the steps she and her team are taking to review the regulation and develop a path forward in advance of the regulation's April 2026 effective date. IFC members raised a variety of questions and shared their experiences working to make their course materials more accessible and shared some of the corresponding workload and resource

challenges associated with doing this work. IFC plans to invite Cheek back to provide updates later in the year.

Human Resources Updates

Marsha Fischer, Vice President for Human Resources, UM

Erin Leuschke, Director, Learning and Organization Development, UM

Fischer and Leuschke discussed various items with the IFC. This included, but was not limited to, work to prepare for and monitor federal Title IX and Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) regulations and associated legal challenges. Fischer provided updates on processes related to telework arrangements and the staff leave plan; Leuschke discussed annual compliance training and other HR programs. IFC members asked numerous questions, shared faculty experiences, and provided suggested improvements to the leave plan's primary caregiver component.

Brainstorming for AY 2024-2025

Pamela Stuerke, IFC Chair

IFC members discussed areas for further discussion and focus for the 2024-25 academic year. Topics discussed included artificial intelligence (AI) policies and practices, ongoing concern about the conflict in the Middle East, ongoing discussions surrounding changes to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives, and potential improvements to promotion and tenure policies. The group also discussed the possibility of having a joint meeting with the Intercampus Student Council (ISC).

Government Relations Update

Dustin Schnieders, Assistant Vice President for Government Relations, UM

Schnieders provided an overview of legislative initiatives that could impact higher education. Schnieders also provided insight on the economic outlook for the state and highlighted work to potentially create a statewide performance funding model for higher education. The IFC plans to invite Schnieders back to provide updates during the spring semester.

Academic Affairs Policy Updates

John Middleton, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief of Staff, UM

Steven Chaffin, Academic Affairs Program Director, UM

Chaffin provided updates on work to streamline the process for requesting approval of new degree programs. IFC members asked questions and shared concern about overreliance on market assessment tools. Middleton provided an overview of a new standard operating procedure for vetting changes to the Collected Rules and Regulations (CRRs), which is designed to increase consistency and ensure all relevant groups are consulted.

Financial Updates

Eric Vogelweid, Assistant Vice President and Controller, UM

Vogelweid provided a year-end overview of the university's FY 2024 budget and answered questions about the state of the US economy and performance-based funding proposals and their potential impact on higher education finance.

Missouri Online Updates

Stephanie McClelland, Chief Online Learning Officer, UM

Danna Wren, Senior Director of Academic Technologies, UM

McClelland and Wren provided updates regarding the branding, organization, and staffing of Missouri Online. They discussed and answered questions regarding the course certification process and standards and federal regulations impacting distance education. Wren provided several academic technology updates, including:

1. The UDoIT Advantage Tool to assist with accessibility of course materials.
2. Honor Lock proctoring service, replacing Smarter Proctoring.
3. Pilot program for Harmonize, which improves Canvas discussion boards.
4. Pilot program for Kritik, which improves Canvas peer-to-peer review tools.

McClelland and Wren also discussed forthcoming updates to Canvas and other tools currently being evaluated by Missouri Online.

Curators' Luncheon

Robin Wenneker, UM Board of Curators Chair

Bob Fry, UM Board of Curators Member

IFC members invited UM Board of Curators Chair Robin Wenneker and Curator Bob Fry to join them for lunch. After introductions, the group discussed a variety of issues of importance to the board members and faculty.

President's Session

Mun Choi, President of the University of Missouri

IFC members discussed a variety of topics with the president, including ongoing discussions around diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives, digital accessibility, artificial intelligence, and plans for the fall semester.