



University of Missouri System

UM Connection | Summer 2023

Update from Interim Chief Engagement Officer Chad Higgins

Happy Summer! Last month, I met with the UM System Four Campus Leadership Committee, along with other university leaders. It was wonderful to see them in person and share ideas. I look forward to many more opportunities to collaborate in the future.

One recent and impactful collaboration is the University of Missouri System Broadband Initiative, a coordinated effort to help more Missourians access affordable high-speed internet. As a partner with the [Missouri Office of Broadband Development](#), the initiative supports community planning for broadband deployment, digital skills training and utilization of broadband applications like telehealth, online learning and entrepreneurial efforts.

I am excited to share that the National Telecommunications and Information Agency recently announced Missouri will receive more than \$1.7 billion to support broadband expansion across the state. To learn more about the initiative's projects and tools, visit the [Missouri Broadband Resource Rail](#).

Thank you for your continued support of and advocacy for the University of Missouri. Please let us know how we can assist you as engaged leaders in your communities!

Sincerely,

Chad Higgins, Ph.D.



Chad Higgins, Interim MU
Vice Chancellor for
Extension and Engagement

In Memoriam

They were our colleagues, our friends and part of our UM System family. Together we remember those who shared their lives with us. Please keep their families in your thoughts. [View the In Memoriam list \(PDF\)](#).

HR Updates

Annual Enrollment for retirees is October 23 – November 3. Retirees enrolled in university insurance will receive detailed information in the mail at the beginning of October.

Retirees are also invited to attend the retiree town hall where UM System staff and vendor partners will share 2024 retiree benefit plan information:



Retiree Town Hall

October 5, 2023
1-2 p.m.

Information on accessing the town hall and additional event details will be available on the [UM System Retirees Associations](#) webpage closer to the event.

If needed, retirees may confirm or update their contact information through myHR (myhr.umsystem.edu). (For assistance logging into myHR, contact your [campus helpdesk](#).)

Get Involved!

For more information about your campus retirees association and upcoming events, please contact the following representatives:

MU Retirees Association

Ken Dean, president
DeanK@missouri.edu

Or visit the [MURA website](#)

UMKC Retirees Association

Jakob Waterborg, president
WaterborgJ@umkc.edu

Or visit the [UMKCRA website](#)

Miner Retirees Association

Greg Harris, president
gfharris56@gmail.com

Or visit the [Miners RA website](#)

UMSL Retirees Association

Melissa Hattman, president
mhattman@att.net

Or visit the [UMSL RA website](#)

Communications opt-in:

You can authorize the university to share your contact information with your campus retiree association if you choose. Log into myHR* (myhr.umsystem.edu) and select "My Personal Details." You can update your contact information and click the box for "UM Employee Data" to opt in.

**If you need assistance logging into myHR, contact your [campus helpdesk](#).*

Campus Association News and Announcements

MU Retirees Association updates:



As we start the 2023-24 membership year, we want to welcome our new president and program chair, Ken Dean. A big thank you to Ina Linville for serving as president and program chair during the 2022-23 year. Congratulations to our other newly elected officers: Jim Scott, president-elect and program chair; Suzette Heiman, secretary; Sherri Helm, staff member at large; Chris Bouchard, faculty member at large.

The June 6 Breakfast & Field Trip was held at Jefferson Farm Extension and Education Center, a 67-acre educational farm designed to engage the community in experiences about food and agriculture. It was an enjoyable way to engage with fellow retirees.

We have many other exciting and informative events and speakers planned, and we hope you will consider becoming a member!

Check out the [MURA News \(PDF\)](#) for all the events, retiree news and much more, or visit the [MU Retirees Association website](#).

UMKC Retirees Association updates:



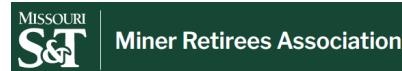
As the Retirees Association for UMKC, we hope to contribute a bit to your summer fun. On July 12 we will visit the Shawnee Indian Mission and later in summer we have scheduled visits to the Johnson County Landfill and a cool dive into the Subtopolis caves along the Missouri River.

Looking ahead, we will host our annual UMKC Retirees Reception September 21, from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. This event is open to all UMKC retirees and will feature a presentation from Daniel McIntosh, a professor from the department of physics and astronomy. On October 3, our Breakfast Speaker Series will feature Sara R. Helfrich, the new dean of the school of education, social work and psychological sciences.

Consider joining or rejoining the UMKC-RA. There are several membership options, and by joining you and your spouse/partner have access to many special benefits and discounts to events and amenities at UMKC.

More details on other UMKCRA news may be found on the [UMKC Retirees Association website](#).

Miner Retirees Association updates:



The Miner Retirees regret that our year-end picnic potluck in May was rained out. We plan to begin our fall events with a picnic on Monday, September 11 at Rolla Lions Club Park. Members can arrive any time after 4:00 p.m. to eat at 5:00. We'll provide grilled hamburgers and hotdogs plus soft drinks. Members are asked to bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

Our first monthly luncheon will be on Monday, October 9. We are pleased to have UM Director of Health and Welfare Carol Wilson to present what we can expect with insurance plans for the next year and other updates. Our monthly catered luncheons are held at The Centre in Rolla.

We're a vibrant and active community of like-minded individuals who share a common bond. Membership in the Miner Retirees is \$10/year with the first year free and includes your spouse/partner.

Check out our new [Miner Retirees Association website](#), where you'll find all sorts of information about our association, including our history, events and how to join.

UMSL Retirees Association updates:



Save the date for our Spring luncheon and annual General Meeting on Friday, June 14, 2024! We will be electing our new officers!

We look forward to sharing additional activities with the alumni association, supporting our membership with interesting and meaningful events and providing updates to retirement information in the coming months.

Don't forget to join or rejoin! For \$15 a year, your membership gives you access to UMSL RA events and programs and discounts on campus events and amenities, including the Touhill Performing Arts Center and a free campus parking permit. April 15 through May 31 is our membership enrollment period. [Join today!](#)

For more detailed news and events, check out the [UMSL Retirees Association website](#).

