STRATEGIC PLAN TO BE DISCUSSED DURING OPEN FORUM

The Strategic Planning Committee will conduct an open forum on UMR’s revised strategic plan at 3:30 p.m. today (Friday, May 4) in St. Pat’s Ballroom A of the Havener Center. The proposed campus strategic plan spans our efforts through 2011, a period that conforms to the UM System’s
The committee will receive comments and answer questions on the plan at the forum. The plan is available for review on the Provost’s web page: http://www.umr.edu/provost/strategicplan/.

The committee will incorporate received comments into the draft plan and distribute a revised plan to campus on May 18. The committee will seek campus endorsement of this proposed final plan by June 18 through an electronic ballot.

PEASLEE WINS GOVERNOR’S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Dr. Kent Peaslee, Curators’ Teaching Professor of metallurgical engineering at UMR and the F. Kenneth Iverson Chair of Steelmaking Technology, has won the 2007 Governor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/news/2007/peasleegovaward.html.

SOFTBALLER NAMED GLVC PLAYER OF THE YEAR

UMR junior second baseman Kandi Wieberg was named the Great Lakes Valley Conference’s “Player of the Year” at the league’s awards banquet Thursday night in Peoria, Ill. More: http://campus.umr.edu/sports/.

SPORTS AWARDS ANNOUNCED AT BANQUET

Swimmer Travis Stensby was named the 2007 men’s Gale Bullman Award winner and his coach, Doug Grooms, was one of the recipients of Coach of the Year honors at the annual M-Club athletic banquet Wednesday. The women’s Bullman Award winner is Becca Kueny, a member of the track and women’s basketball teams and an All-America performer in the javelin throw. Full story: http://tinyurl.com/2gxhqv.

MINERS SIGN BIG MAN

UMR men’s basketball coach Dale Martin has announced the signing of Taurance Townsel, a 6-8, 265-pound post player from Houston, Texas, to a national letter of intent to play at UMR next season. Full story: http://tinyurl.com/2z3rl.

RETIREMENT RECEPTION TO BE HELD FOR JINNY RYLE

A retirement celebration will be held for Jinny Ryle from 2-4 p.m. Thursday, May 17, in the Havener Center. Help Jinny celebrate and remember her 25-plus-year career at UMR by bringing a memento, (picture, fun story, card, letter) to the reception. A memory book containing the items will be presented to Jinny.

FRESHMAN ENGINEERING STUDENTS VOTE FOR FAVORITE TEACHERS

UMR freshman engineering students were recently given the opportunity to cast a vote for their favorite teacher. A total of 26 instructors in 10 departments were nominated. The top 5 vote-getters were Dr. Yingfa Ma (chemistry), Dr. Petra DeWitt (history), Dr. Ron Bieniek (physics), Dr. Martin Bohner (mathematics) and Dr. Harvest Collier (chemistry). They will receive the Freshman Engineering Program WE LOVE YOUR CLASS award. Congratulations to these outstanding teachers.

5/13/2007
VOTES ARE TALLIED IN ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

Graduating seniors in the engineering management department recently voted for their "Outstanding EMGT Professor," and the award went to lecturer Don Higginbotham. The faculty in engineering management voted on students, and Paul Thompson is the spring 2007 "Outstanding Graduating Senior." Congratulations to both of these individuals for jobs well done.

WIN PRIZES DURING FINAL MBA BUSINESS SIMULATION GAME

Students in UMR's new Master’s of business administration degree program will again test their business skills during a real-time simulation game from 10 a.m. to noon on Monday, May 7, in the lobby of the Havener Center. The public may interact during the simulation game by investing in one of the three simulated companies created by the MBA students. All of these public investors who participate between 9:30-11 a.m. will receive a door prize while supplies last. Those who invest in the company that generates the highest profit during the simulation will have a chance to win a memory stick or other great prizes. More information is available at http://web.umr.edu/~leabi/MBA/MBAQ8.htm.

AAVG TEAM HOPES TO FLY HIGH


UMR TEAM WINS HELICOPTER CONTEST

A multidisciplinary team of students from UMR recently beat out Georgia Tech and the University of Alabama-Huntsville to capture a first-place finish with their small unmanned helicopter. The national competition was sponsored by the Redstone Chapter of the American Helicopter Society. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/news/2007/FirstResponder_win.html.

STUDENTS PITCH IDEAS TO MO-SCI

A more extensive website and increased presence at trade shows topped the list of techniques Mo-Sci could use to improve their profit and market share, according to a proposal developed by UMR students. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/news/2007/EngMgt-MoSci.html.

COMMENCEMENT IS MAY 12

Spring commencement at UMR is scheduled for May 12. Approximately 600 bachelor’s degrees will be awarded during a ceremony that starts at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 12, in the Gale Bullman Multi-Purpose Building. A ceremony for graduate students (master’s degree candidates and doctorate degree candidates) will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, May 12, in Leach Theatre of Castleman Hall. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/events/2007/commencementspring07.html.

HONORARY DEGREES TO BE AWARDED

UMR will award nine honorary professional degrees during its spring commencement Saturday, May
JAZZ CONCERT IS TONIGHT

The UMR Jazz Band and UMR Jazz Combo will perform in concert tonight (Friday, May 4) to mark the end of the current semester. The performance begins at 8 p.m. in Leach Theatre of Castleman Hall. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/events/2007/Jazz0507.html.

PREVIOUS NEWS:

IMPACT OF AIRCRAFT EMISSIONS ON CLIMATE TO BE TESTED

As part of a larger consortium, a team of researchers from UMR has developed a test that will, for the first time, allow scientists to accurately gauge the impact jet aircraft emissions have on global climate change. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/news/2007/WhitefieldEPAAward.html.

GRAD STUDENT TO MEET WITH NOBEL LAUREATES

A graduate student at UMR, Steven Jung, has been invited to participate in the 2007 Meeting of Nobel Laureates and Students in Lindau, Germany. About 500 students from around the world have been invited to the meeting, which will be held July 1-6. Each year, Nobel Laureates in chemistry, physics, physiology and medicine convene in Lindau to give lectures and meet informally with students and young researchers. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/news/2007/jungnobel.html.

CHANCELLOR CARNEY RECOGNIZED FOR HIS RESEARCH

A reusable crash cylinder created by UMR Chancellor John F. Carney III is one of 100 university research projects cited in a new publication that showcases academic research that is contributing to a better world. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/people/2007/Carney100innov.html.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING STUDENTS RECEIVE RECOGNITION


MINE RESCUE TEAMS IN ACTION

Two mine rescue teams from UMR -- the only university in the nation to have such teams -- are competing in an underground rescue competition May 2-4 in New Iberia, La. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/news/2007/minerescuespring07.html.

EXERCISE IN THE WATER

The distance and continuing education department at UMR will sponsor the Summer 2007 Water Exercise Program next month. The classes will be held from June 4 through Aug. 9 at the UMR
Swimming Pool in the Gale Bullman Multi-Purpose Building. The instructor for the classes will be Kathy Ball. The fee for the program is $60.

Course participants will have three sessions to choose from: 8-9 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays; 9-10 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays; and 10-11 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays. A lap-swimming program will also be held prior to each class from 7:30-8 a.m. Interested participants may enroll in the program and swim laps prior to each class. The fee for this program is $30. Participants may sign up for lap swimming plus a water exercise program for $75.

For more information contact Kathy Ball, course instructor, at 573-364-8534.

RETIREMENT RECEPTION FOR WOODFIN PLANNED

A retirement reception for John Woodfin, UMR’s theatre director, will be held from 3-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, in the lobby of Leach Theatre in Castleman Hall. For more information, call 341-4185 or email splank@umr.edu.

ATTEND RETIREMENT RECEPTION FOR PETRY

A retirement reception will be held for Dr. Thomas Petry, professor in the civil, architectural and environmental engineering department, from 2-4 p.m. on Friday, May 11, in the Kummer Atrium of Butler Carlton Hall.

WANTED: TALENTED PEOPLE AND PETS TO DO STUPID TRICKS

UMR Staff Day organizers need your help. Do you have a special hidden talent? Can your pet do stupid tricks? We are looking for talented humans and pets to do “stupid tricks” for Staff Day. In addition, there will be a Staff Day look-alike contest. Do you look like a certain celebrity? Do you look like your pet? If so, please send in your photos. For more information, contact Amy Gillman, gillman@umr.edu.

CHECK IT SITE FOR MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

UMR IT will be performing systems, networking, and application maintenance during regularly scheduled maintenance windows for each service. All maintenance is reviewed during weekly Change Management meetings within IT before implementation.

Details on IT maintenance can be found every week at: http://campus.umr.edu/it/announcements.

For more information, contact the IT Solutions Center at 341-HELP or submit an online Help Request at http://help.umr.edu.

LIBRARY EXTENDS HOURS FOR END OF SEMESTER

UMR’s Wilson Library will have extended hours for the final weeks of the semester. Beginning on Sunday, April 29, and continuing through Thursday, May 10, the library will be open from 8 a.m. until 2 a.m. the following morning. Regular hours of 8 a.m. to midnight will resume on Friday, May 11.
THESE SHIRTS AREN’T FOR THE LILY-LIVERED

UMRrrrr Staff Day is Wednesday, May 30. Show your pirattitude – and get an extra chance to win swag – by buying a shirt. T-shirts are selling for $7-9. Those who purchase a Staff Day shirt will be entered into a drawing for the chance to win a one-year-free parking pass on campus or a portable DVD player. UMR Chancellor John Carney is picking up the lunch tab for all current staff members, so you’ll just need to bring your staff ID that day to get your free lunch ticket. If you are not a UMR staff member, you may purchase lunch tickets for $6 at the door on May 30. Check with your building contact person to place your T-shirt order. For more information, contact Melissa Folsom at 341-4954 or mfolsom@umr.edu.

WANT TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT?

The office of technology, commercialization and economic development at UMR is hosting a seminar on contracting and grant opportunities with the federal government from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 30, at the St. Robert Municipal Center in St. Robert, Mo. The event is sponsored by Rep. Ike Skelton.

The event features guest speakers who will provide information on how to conduct business with the federal government. There will be a three-hour break-out session on the basics of writing a business plan. The cost of the seminar, including breakfast and lunch, is $39. Seating is limited and registration is required. Registration information is available at http://www.missouribusiness.net/cgi-bin/calendar (select the May 30 seminar). For more information, call 573-341-7584.

WRESTLEMANIA IS COMING TO ROLLA

Wrestlemania Revenge is coming to the Gale Bullman Multi-Purpose Building at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 19. Ticket prices range from $20 to $45. Tickets are available at UMR’s Leach Theatre Box Office and through all Ticketmaster outlets. Full story: http://news.umr.edu/events/2007/wrestelmania07.html.

SELF-DEFENSE CLASS OFFERED

UMR Police will offer a self-defense class on May 5. For more information on these RAD classes (rape, aggression, defense), email radclass@umr.edu.

GRADUATION JUBILEE PLANNED

UMR will host a Graduation Jubilee from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Friday, May 11. The event is a celebration, designed to honor not only the graduates but also faculty and staff who have contributed to their success. Displays and exhibits will feature student projects and the contributions of faculty and staff. Parents are invited to talk to those who have impacted the lives of their sons and daughters. Instructors, advisors and staff members are encouraged to attend. Contact Connie Goodridge at 341-4114 if you are willing to participate as an exhibitor.

COMING UP AT UMR

For a look at upcoming campus activities -- or to add your department or organization events to the public calendar -- visit the online calendar at http://calendar.umr.edu.
GOT NEWS?

We want to hear from you. Submit your departmental news, events open to the campus community, or other announcements to news@umr.edu. To ensure your event is listed in the eConnection, please submit it at least three days in advance. Events submitted with little or no advance notice may not make it into the eConnection.

Also, please do not send attachments. Instead, simply cut and paste the information into your email message.

ECONNECTION POLICY

The eConnection is geared toward faculty and staff and primarily includes university-related news, announcements and events that pertain to a large segment of this employee audience. As such, submissions from “umbrella” or campuswide organizations that affect a broad campus audience are encouraged and receive preference. Service and charitable activities that are sponsored or endorsed by a university department or organization may also be considered for inclusion. The eConnection is not to be used for personal profit, commercial advertising or announcements that are political or religious in nature. Announcements about events sponsored by recognized student groups with ties to religious organizations will be accepted. Where possible, the eConnection will reference existing documents on the university’s website, such as news releases and the UMR calendar of events.

The eConnection is not appropriate for items such as news from or to small specialized groups. Special requests, received with advanced notice, will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the public relations office, which is responsible for approving items for inclusion.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

For submission guidelines or to add or remove your name from the eConnection mailing list, go to http://news.umr.edu/econnection.html.

The eConnection is an online news and information service brought to you by the UMR Office of Public Relations and the UMR Information Technology Department. All UMR faculty and staff are automatically subscribed to the eConnection, and those wishing to be removed from the list must follow the instructions above.

The eConnection is published in digest form two or three times a week during the academic year, and less frequently during the summer. In addition, more urgent announcements are posted as the need arises. If you have news or announcements for the campus community, please let us know. Send email to news@umr.edu.