COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

UM System Board of Curators approves employee benefits for same-sex partners

By Brendan Gibbons
June 13, 2013 | 10:06 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — The question of whether the University of Missouri System should extend benefits to partners of same-sex employees was settled with a single word: "Aye."

The UM System Board of Curators voted unanimously Thursday afternoon to extend benefits to same-sex partners of system employees if they meet certain criteria. The measure was part of a larger set of changes to the university’s regulations governing employee health benefits.

One of those changes added “sponsored adult dependents” as a new category of people who can be eligible for employee medical, dental, vision and life insurance, as well as accidental death and dismemberment insurance, starting in 2014.

"The adult-sponsored dependents will cover same-sex couples who do meet the criteria," said John Fougere, chief communications officer for the UM System.

To gain benefits, a sponsored adult dependent must:

- Have had the same principal residence as the employee or retired employee for at least 12 months and continue to have the same principal residence as the employee or retired employee, disregarding temporary absences because of special circumstances including illness, education, business, vacation or military service.
- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Not be currently married to another person under either statutory or common law.
- Not be related to the employee or retired employee by blood or a degree of closeness that would prohibit marriage in the law of the state in which the employee or retired employee resides.
- Not be eligible for Medicare.
The move to allow benefits for partners of employees came after years of requests by faculty groups across the university system. Over the past few years, faculty councils on all four campuses passed resolutions recommending that the system allow same-sex partners an equal share of benefits.

In the end, the curators piggy-backed this rule change with several other changes related to new requirements in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which would require the system to increase coverage for certain part-time employees.

An estimated 500 part-time system employees would gain coverage, said Betsy Rodriguez, UM System vice president for human resources. Expanding coverage to comply with the act will keep the university from receiving a $39 million fine from the federal government, she said.

“We don’t plan to get even close to that fine,” Rodriguez told the board.

Rodriguez also said she would be setting up an ad hoc task force to examine system employees' retirement and benefit plans. The 16-member task force will start meeting in July. Its role will be offering Rodriguez recommendations about employee benefits and retirement plans and helping her communicate changes in these benefits to employees, retirees and dependents.

Salary increases for some MU employees might also be on the horizon. In his presentation of MU's five-year strategic plan to the board, Chancellor Brady Deaton said the university will be using the Association of American Universities' ranking as a benchmark to gauge MU's success.

Deaton said the university administration's goal is to move MU up in the association's ranking. This would mean offering more competitive salaries in some fields, Deaton said.

“We feel that we cannot effectively recruit the best of the best unless we commit to an increase of salary to a reasonable level compared to other AAU schools,” Deaton said.

Curator Don Downing praised Deaton for this move.

“Chancellor, you've done a great job rebuilding the infrastructure of the campus,” Downing said. “But I'm glad to see the focus now is on faculty and staff and getting the salaries up to where they need to be.”
The curators undertook other issues during their Thursday session:

- **Operating budget**

  The Curators examined the operating budget for the 2014 fiscal year. Revenues grew from $2.77 billion last year to $2.89 billion, and expenditures grew from $2.67 billion to $2.76 billion. As with last year, 19 percent of revenue is projected to come from tuition and fees. The system plans to request $494.5 million from the legislature, an increase of 1 percentage point of the total budget compared to last year.

- **Building improvements**

  The curators also examined requests for capital improvement funds from the legislature. Nikki Krawitz, UM System vice president for finance and administration, said the system will be requesting $194 million for critical repairs for all four campuses, though there is a $1.3 billion backlog of renovation and repair projects.

  “State funding for capital improvement projects has been episodic, political and unpredictable,” Krawitz said.

  At MU, the projects Krawitz said needed most urgent attention are the Lafferre Hall, which houses part of the College of Engineering, a new School of Music and performing arts facility, and renovation and addition to Arvah E. Strickland Hall.

- **Renovation approval**

  The curators also voted to approve renovation projects for Jesse and Swallow halls. Pickard Hall, which houses the Museum of Art History and Archaeology, was not on the list of projects the curators could approve at this meeting.

  They also voted to improve a group of buildings centered around the Pavilion at Dobbs dining hall. The Dobbs project includes demolishing the dining hall and Jones Residence Hall and building two residential halls containing 570 beds and a new dining facility with up to 750 seats. Dobbs will remain open while the new dining hall is under construction.

  The Board of Curators will meet again Friday morning for a closed session starting at 8 a.m. At 9 a.m., it will resume its public session, followed by a news conference at about 11:30 a.m.

  *Supervising editor is Jake Kreinberg.*
$92 million in campus upgrades headed for Mizzou

COLUMBIA, MO. • The University of Missouri Board of Curators on Thursday approved $92 million in campus improvement projects for the Columbia campus.

The largest is the $71 million first phase of a plan to tear down and replace three older residence halls. The so-called Dobbs Group Replacement Project is the final piece of an effort to revamp the school’s housing stock that started 12 years ago.

“This is the last piece of that,” said Nikki Krawitz, the system’s vice president of finance.

Plans call for the replacement of the Jones, Lathrop and Laws residence halls, as well as a group dining hall, north of Faurot Field. This piece of the project covers Jones and the dining hall. The remaining two halls will be dealt with later.

While the project received approval, some curators questioned the timing and whether the school should be committing to such a large project now.

Mizzou officials defended the project, noting that the school does not currently have enough space on campus to handle student demand and that the 1960s-era buildings have high maintenance costs and the potential to be taken out of commission by infrastructure issues, including aged electrical systems.

“We’ve been nursing these things along,” said Frankie Minor, the school’s residential life director.

The three halls have room for 1,010 students. That number will expand to 1,242 by the time the first phase of the expansion is completed in May 2017.

The bulk of funding for the project will come from bonds supported by residence hall revenue.

Curators also signed off on the $11.5 million renovation of Swallow Hall, built in 1893. Swallow is on the east side of the Francis Quadrangle.

The interior of the building will be gutted, though much of the exterior will be preserved. Once renovation is completed in the summer of 2015, it will provide classroom and faculty office space for the anthropology, art history and archaeology departments.

Also slated for a makeover is Jesse Hall, the main administrative building on campus.

The $9.8 million renovation will include a fire sprinkler system, work on elevators and a new heating and cooling system.
The building will be vacated during much of the work, which is expected to be completed in March 2015.

Curators also approved the 2014 operating budget, which includes a 1.7 percent in resident undergraduate tuition and fees — both of which have been in the works since January. Also included is money for faculty and salary increases of 1.5 to 3 percent, with each campus responsible for offering a plan on how the money is spent.
COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

GEORGE KENNEDY: Eliot Battle, Roger Mitchell, Brady Deaton: Three men whose work speaks for itself

By George Kennedy
June 14, 2013 | 6:00 a.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — I've spent most of my working life around journalists and politicians, so I don’t have a lot of experience with quiet, modest people who let their good work speak for itself.

We’ve recently lost two gentlemen who fit that description. A third has just announced his retirement. Let’s take a few minutes to celebrate their contributions.

Thursday’s Missourian carried a collection of eloquent tributes to Eliot Battle. In the public eye, he was overshadowed for most of his life by the remarkable woman who was his wife. It was she who earned a doctorate and became Columbia’s first female associate superintendent of schools. Our new high school carries Muriel Battle’s name.

But as the Missourian reminded us, the Battles were a team as they integrated schools and neighborhoods and touched the lives of generations of students. He quietly counseled as guidance director, assistant to the president of Columbia College, author and founder of the Minority Men’s Network. His doctorate from MU was honorary.

Any father could only hope to have a daughter say of him what Donna Battle Pierce told a reporter about hers: “My dad set the example for how people should live their lives.”

When Roger Mitchell’s four daughters stood before the packed sanctuary in the downtown Methodist Church at Wednesday’s memorial service, they could have said the same. Instead, each read selections from the Bible. Roger had chosen those verses, just as he had planned the rest of the service.

His 15 years as a dean at MU may have been the professional peak of his career, but the hours he devoted to volunteering at the Food Bank seemed just as satisfying. He was usually the first to introduce himself to newcomers to the volunteer room. Then he’d
proceed to interview them while saying little of his own accomplishments. Of course, he took on a leadership role there, too, serving for years on the board of directors.

Brady Deaton announced his retirement as the university’s chancellor Wednesday morning. That afternoon, when he spoke at the service for Roger, he didn’t mention that. Self-aggrandizement isn’t his style.

I’ve worked for six chancellors. Brady is – perhaps second to Richard Wallace – the most soft spoken. All of those chancellors have had an uphill struggle against the gravitational forces of inadequate budgets, unsympathetic legislatures and increasing demands. Several have left in defeat.

Brady remains relentlessly upbeat to the last. “MU is a jewel for the state, a valuable asset with luster that elevates the quality and reputation of Missouri,” he declaimed in his emailed announcement. His time as chancellor has been “a pure joy,” he added.

I find that a little hard to believe, but I have no doubt he meant it. The expression could have been uttered by Roger or Eliot just as plausibly. Along with their genuine modesty, it’s the ability to find joy in roles that most of us would find burdensome that makes these three men so memorable.

A cynical friend suggests that Brady’s retirement may have been forced on him. Nov. 15 does seem an unusual point in the academic calendar. But he’ll be 71 by then, and nine years in his job look to me like enough for the most dedicated administrator. Of his predecessors, only Barbara Uehling lasted that long.

The cliche has it that nice guys finish last. The lives of these three nice guys prove the contrary.

George Kennedy is a former managing editor at the Missourian and professor emeritus at the Missouri School of Journalism.
COLUMBIA, MO (AP) - University of Missouri curators are preparing to plan their search for a new chancellor for the Columbia campus to succeed the retiring Brady Deaton.

The governing board was meeting Friday and will likely hire a search firm to vet candidates. The board could also appoint a faculty advisory panel to make its own recommendations.

Deaton announced Wednesday he will retire in November after nearly a decade as chancellor. The 70-year-old agricultural economist hopes to continue research into global hunger.

Deaton and university system President Tim Wolfe will outline the specifics of Deaton's new role with the university at the curators' meeting.
Deaton discusses career, plans for emeritus work

By Brendan Gibbons
June 13, 2013 | 9:05 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Food security is one of the most important challenges facing the world in the coming decades, said MU Chancellor Brady Deaton, who intends to work hard to address it as chancellor emeritus after he retires Nov. 15.

Deaton, who announced Wednesday that he would retire as chancellor, took time to talk with Missourian reporter Brendan Gibbons outside a closed meeting of the University of Missouri System Board of Curators on Thursday. He talked about his past interest and studies in agricultural policy and trade issues and how growing up on a farm in Kentucky helped instill those values.

Deaton is chair of the Board of International Food and Agricultural Development, to which he was appointed by President Barack Obama in 2011. He talked about his experience in that capacity and about how he hopes to explore how universities can become more involved in addressing global food security issues.

The challenge, Deaton said, extends beyond impoverished areas.

"A lot of the challenge we face in feeding people by 2050 will depend on what we do in the United States, in Europe, in South America, in all the developing countries as well, because there's just going to be such monumental demand for food products," Deaton said. "So it affects what all we do — farmers in Missouri and across this country."

Supervising editor is Scott Swafford.
University of Missouri Chancellor Brady Deaton isn’t leaving MU because things are dull. Rather, he said he feels the lack of a crisis made now a good time to retire.

Deaton, who will turn 71 in August, became the 21st chief executive officer of MU on Oct. 4, 2004. Deaton first came to MU in 1989 as a professor and chairman in the Agricultural Economics Department.

"In a setting where I can look out the window here and reflect at those columns that I’ve looked at through the years ... it gives me great comfort to stand in this setting and announce I’m
stepping away from my position as chancellor," Deaton said yesterday in the rotunda at Jesse Hall.

Deaton said his decision to retire did not happen quickly, but in the "absence of any major crisis" he felt it was as good a time as any to step down. Deaton added that the university is situated in such a way that MU should be able to attract many outstanding candidates for his position.

Deaton's retirement will be effective Nov. 15. Deaton said he will take some time off to be with his family, which includes his wife, Anne, their four grown children and seven grandchildren.

"I will certainly continue to be engaged in higher education in general and also specifically with the University of Missouri," he said. Deaton said he would be pursuing a "new addition" involving MU, which he will discuss more during the University of Missouri Board of Curators meeting tomorrow.

Deaton, who was MU chancellor for nine years, will continue to serve as chancellor emeritus with a focus on the university's role in international development. Deaton also will continue as chairman of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development.

President Barack Obama named Deaton chairman of the board in 2011 and last year appointed him to a four-year term.

During his tenure at MU, Deaton has seen the university's total enrollment grow by 7,745, or 28.7 percent, and minority enrollment rose by 113 percent.

MU also made the transition into the Southeastern Conference. Deaton said MU's football team "leads the SEC in academic success rate" and overall is second only to Vanderbilt.

"It's been a good time, a wonderful time" at MU, Deaton said.

UM System President Tim Wolfe said Deaton has been an "unmatched advocate" for the university.

"From dramatic enrollment increases to the number of faculty who belong to the Academy of National Sciences ... Brady has truly led Mizzou to greatness," Wolfe said.

Wolfe added that Deaton always focused on what was best for the university, so it will be his top priority to find his replacement.

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Posted in Local on Thursday, June 13, 2013 2:00 pm.
Missouri basketball Coach Frank Haith and University of Miami officials defended the school against NCAA allegations of “lack of institutional control” today after nearly three years of dealing with the fallout from a booster who provided improper benefits to athletes.

University President Donna Shalala and Atlantic Coast Conference Commissioner John Swafford arrived for the hearing this morning at a hotel in downtown Indianapolis.

Current football Coach Al Golden, former football assistant Clint Hurtt and Haith, the former coach at Miami, also arrived for the hearing.

The NCAA alleges booster Nevin Shapiro provided $170,000 in benefits to players, recruits, coaches and others between 2002-10. Shapiro is serving 20 years in prison for his role in a $930 million Ponzi scheme.

Miami has already enacted self-imposed penalties, sitting out two bowl games and the 2012 ACC championship game.

The case has included an admission the NCAA botched the investigation, a shake-up in the NCAA enforcement division and a denial of a request to dismiss the case.

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Posted in Basketball on Thursday, June 13, 2013 2:00 pm
COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

UM System's awards ceremony honors faculty and students

By Allison Wrabel
June 13, 2013 | 8:31 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Six MU faculty members were among those scheduled to receive awards during a banquet hosted by the University of Missouri System Board of Curators and UM System President Tim Wolfe on Thursday evening.

A news release from the UM system listed the MU and other award winners, descriptions of the awards and the reasons the recipients were chosen:

- **Thomas Jefferson Award — Steven Watts:** This award honors a faculty member who exemplifies Jefferson's ideals and principles and demonstrates distinctive service to UM and mankind. Watts is a professor of American history who specializes in U.S. cultural and intellectual history. He has published in top journals and his biographies of Walt Disney, Hugh Hefner and Dale Carnegie have won critical acclaim.

- **C. Brice Ratchford Memorial Fellowship Award — Jerry Valentine:** This award honors a faculty member who personifies the late C. Brice Ratchford, former president of the UM System and dean of Cooperative Extension. Valentine is professor emeritus in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis and served at MU for 33 years. He established himself as a premier scholar in meeting the educational leaders in grades five through nine. He developed the state's first comprehensive, performance-based teacher evaluation system.

- **President's Award for Community Engagement — Wouter Montfrooij:** This award honors a faculty member who is engaged in the community through volunteerism, service-learning, educational programming and outreach. Montfrooij is an associate professor of physics and founder of the Saturday Morning Science lecture series.

- **President's Award for Sustained Excellence — Bahram Mashhoon:** This award honors a faculty member who demonstrates and continues a record
of distinguished scholarship, research or creativity for 15 or more years. Mashhoon is a professor of physics with more than 27 years at MU. He discovered spin-rotation-gravity coupling, now known as the "Mashhoon effect."

- **President's Award for Economic Development — Marilyn Rantz:** This award honors a faculty member for helping meet the goal of the UM System serving as an economic engine. Rantz of the Sinclair School of Nursing is a Curator's Professor and works to improve the quality of care delivered to older adults. Her research on nursing home quality has secured almost $52 million in grants and $14.8 million from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service, the largest grant ever received at MU. She also worked to create TigerPlace, which grew from 31 to 54 apartments and has an 85-bed rehabilitation center. This has brought more than 140 jobs to Columbia and resulted in more than $5 million in annual payroll.

- **President's Award for Intercampus Collaboration — Debra Gayer:** Gayer developed an online Pediatric Nurse Practitioner program with intercampus faculty resources that allowed students to work with expert faculty on all four UM campuses without leaving their communities. Recipients from other campuses were Dawn Garzon and Susann Farberman of the University of Missouri-St. Louis and Diana King and Virginia Rahm of the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Other awards and recipients included:

- **Student Entrepreneur of the Year, Casey Burton, Missouri Science and Technology.**
- **President’s Award for Cross-Cultural Engagement, Rita Csapó-Sweet, University of Missouri-St. Louis.**
- **President’s Award for Leadership, Michael Kruger, University of Missouri-Kansas City.**
- **President’s Award for Mentoring, Wayne Huebner, Missouri Science and Technology.**
- **President’s Award for Service, Vicki Sauter, University of Missouri-St. Louis.**
- **President’s Award for Early Career Excellence, Suzanna Long, Missouri Science and Technology.**
- **President’s Award for Innovative Teaching, Carl Hoagland, University of Missouri-St. Louis.**
Dads Who Bond With Kids Help Keep Marriage Strong

Sharing housework also key, study found, as is open communication with spouse

By Barbara Bronson Gray
HealthDay Reporter

THURSDAY, June 13 (HealthDay News) -- For dads aiming at marital bliss, a new study suggests just two factors are especially important: being engaged with the kids, for sure -- but also doing a fair share of the household chores.

In other words, just taking the children outside for a game of catch won't cut it.

"In our study, the wives thought father involvement with the kids and participation in household work are all inter-related and worked together to improve marital quality," said Adam Galovan, lead author of the study and a researcher at the University of Missouri, in Columbia. "They think being a good father involves more than just doing things involved in the care of children."

Galovan found that wives feel more cared for when husbands are involved with their children, yet helping out with the day-to-day responsibilities of running the household also matters.

But Galovan was surprised to find that how husbands and wives specifically divide the work doesn't seem to matter much. Husbands and wives are happier when they share parenting and household responsibilities, but the chores don't have to be divided equally, according to the study. What matters is that both parents are actively participating in both chores and child-rearing.

Doing household chores and being engaged with the children seem to be important ways for husbands to connect with their wives, and that connection is related to better relationships, Galovan explained.

The research was recently published in the Journal of Family Issues.

For the study, the researchers tapped data from a 2005 study that pulled marriage licenses of couples married for less than one year from the Utah Department of Health. Researchers looked at every third or fourth marriage license over a six-month period.
From that data, Galovan surveyed 160 couples between 21 and 55 years old who were in a first marriage. The majority of participants -- 73 percent -- were between 25 and 30 years old. Almost 97 percent were white. Of participants, 98 percent of the husbands and 16 percent of the wives reported they were employed full time, while 24 percent worked part time. The average couple had been married for about five years, and the average income of the participants was between $50,000 and $60,000 a year.

Couples indicated which spouse was generally responsible for completing 20 common household tasks -- or if both or neither of them were responsible. Fathers rated their involvement in their children's lives and mothers noted how involved they felt their husbands were with the kids. Both spouses rated how happy they were with how they divided household tasks and with their marriage.

Men and women differed in how they reported marital quality. For wives, the father-child relationship and father involvement was most important, followed by satisfaction with how the household work was accomplished.

For husbands, satisfaction with the division of family work came first, followed by their wife's feelings about the father-child relationship, and then the degree of involvement the dad had with his children.

For her part, Laurie Gerber, president of Handel Group Life Coaching in New York City, said the study rings true. Women really appreciate getting hands-on help at home, but men don't realize this intuitively because they see things very differently, she said. "If a man wants to get into his wife's good graces he should do a chore," she said. "If a woman wants to get into a man's good graces, she should jump him."

A study published earlier this year in American Sociological Review showed that married men who spend more time doing traditional household tasks reported having less frequent sex than do husbands who stick to more traditional masculine jobs, such as gardening or home repair. While women like getting help, doing too many of the chores may inadvertently turn the husband into more of a helpmate than a lover, the research found.

Rather than basing the choice of chores on traditional roles, Gerber recommends that tasks be divided based on both who cares most about getting the particular job done and who is best at it. "My husband doesn't care if my kids have matching outfits on and I don't care about getting the oil changed," she said. Couples need to sit down and discuss who will be primarily responsible for what. "That stops fights and clears so much air."

For Gerber, it's critical to try not to be influenced by how you were raised, what your culture says you should do or what the gender stereotyping says, but rather, by what you think is right. "Marriage is all about being there for the other person and you work as a team to get the job of the family done," she said.

More information

Learn more about parenting from the U.S. National Library of Medicine.

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Elderberry symposium brings together researchers, producers

Researchers connect with crop advocates.

By Karyn Spory

Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 2:00 pm

Elderberries might not be the first thing you think of when you hear "superfruit," but farmers and researchers from around the world were trying to change that during the first International Symposium on Elderberries.

The symposium was held at Stoney Creek Inn and was sponsored by the University of Missouri, the Missouri Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and the International Society of Horticultural Sciences.

Michael Gold, associate director and professor of agroforestry at MU, said the idea was to bring together people from different locations and entities who all believe in the medicinal value of elderberries and get them talking.

"This is a plant that has 1,000 years of reported value as a traditional medicine. ... but this is the first gathering" to try to connect it to hard science, Gold said.

The elderberry plant grows in a tree or bush form and features white flowers and blue or purple berries. Only the berries can be eaten after they are cooked. Elderberries are high in antioxidants, help boost the immune system and have been reported to inhibit the growth of influenza viruses, Gold said. The flowers are used for both as a flavor additive and to aid in headaches, bladder or kidney infections and indigestion, according to the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Researchers and producers were sitting in on the same session, said Andy Thomas, assistant professor for the MU's Southwest Research Center. The first three days focused on the research, while today and tomorrow will focus on the farmers. Boone County has a significant number of acres under production.
Christopher Patton, president of River Hills Harvest Marketers LLC, said he has enjoyed listening to the researchers and feels holding the symposium like this has been beneficial.

"The university has shown us how they do their research and how they get their results," Patton said. "It gives me great confidence in the process of the research."

Patton, who is involved with the marketing of elderberry products, said it is important that he is able to deliver information he has learned at the symposium to his customers.

"We have a lot of ways in which elderberries have been used, for many different health treatments and benefits, and it's nice to see the research coming in to support" their use, he added.

Ina Cernusca, an agroforestry research associate at MU, said because elderberries are such a small species it's nice to be able to get individuals from different facets of research, production and marketing together to discuss the power fruit. "Everyone is very enthusiastic and happy to be together," she said.

Cernusca said her department is promoting the elderberries as a specialty crop. Cernusca said farmers can see a profit the second year of growing the crop. In addition to making a profit, Cernusca said growing elderberries is good for the environment because the long roots of the plant stabilize the soil.

Thomas said he hoped the symposium could "set the stage" for elderberries and help take research to the next level.

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