Confidence, courage, the ability to face criticism and the guts to make decisions are qualities those at the University of Missouri say they hope to see in the school's next chancellor.

The UM System will engage in an external search for a new chancellor for the first time in two decades. Today at Jesse Auditorium, the system had the first of two public forums this week to allow people to give input on the characteristics they want to see in MU's next campus leader. That input will influence and inform the search description, UM President Tim Wolfe said.

In May, Chancellor Brady Deaton announced his plans to retire Nov. 15. Deaton has held the reins at MU for nine years. Wolfe said he hopes to have a new chancellor named by Nov. 15 but that the university will not sacrifice quality for time. "We do have a schedule, but that schedule is flexible if we can't find the right candidate," he said.

The system has contracted with Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates of Monterey Park, Calif., to conduct the search. The firm was also used in the search for the vice president of academic affairs, which was completed in just three months.

Wolfe said a search committee will be named in a few days and will include a broad representation of groups including faculty, staff, students, alumni and retirees.

He also said the identities of the candidates will remain confidential.

"I and my team are committed to being transparent and accountable about the process, but we cannot, however, disclose any details related to candidates, which will complicate our intent on securing the very best talent in the industry," Wolfe said.

Galen Suppes, a professor of chemical engineering, said he hopes the next chancellor not only understands what shared governance is but also practices that idea with faculty. He mentioned the concern in reference to controversy over last year's decision to close the Nuclear Science & Engineering Institute.
John Budd, professor of information science and learning technology, said he thinks a chancellor should be a proficient academic.

"By that, I mean someone who has experience with effective teaching and someone who has been a knowledgeable and effective scholar," Budd said. He added that he would like to see a chancellor with "extensive political acumen," as well.

Peter Wilden, an associate professor in the medical pharmacology and physiology department, said although the search is external, he thinks the search firm should look at candidates who have previously lived and worked in Missouri who might better understand the culture and "have a sense of the institution as a whole."

Danna Vessell, director of education technologies, said the new chancellor also needs an understanding of the current state of higher education.

"We're seeing tremendous changes in higher education, and we have to be prepared to meet those," she said.

The second public forum will be from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday at Jesse Wrench Auditorium in Memorial Union.

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Posted in Education on Monday, July 22, 2013 2:00 pm.
Stakeholders want integrity, lobbying power in new MU chancellor

By Claire Boston
July 22, 2013 | 4:42 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Attention to faculty, integrity and an understanding of limited financial resources are the top qualities speakers at a meeting Monday hope to see in MU’s next chancellor.

The meeting is one of two forums — the second will be Thursday — that allow public input before the search goes behind closed doors.

University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe called the timeline for the search "aggressive yet reasonable." Although the system aims to have a new chancellor selected by the time Chancellor Brady Deaton retires Nov. 15, Wolfe said the search could be extended if the committee cannot find the right candidate.

At the meeting's conclusion, Wolfe said the comments reaffirmed many of the qualities the UM System hopes to see but also brought new ideas.

Wolfe said that as the system begins its first external chancellor search in two decades, the chancellor's job description will likely point to an external candidate.

"I would suspect the bar that is going to be set would suggest an outside candidate," Wolfe said, although he also said the committee would not rule out qualified internal candidates.

The meeting was recorded for the search committee, the members of which will be announced in the next few days, Wolfe said. The feedback will also be used to create a profile of the ideal candidate.

"If you see me not taking copious notes, don't think I'm forgetting it," Wolfe told the 50 to 60 people in the audience.

Shared governance
Faculty spoke on the importance of finding a chancellor who respects faculty governance.

Shared governance — the idea that faculty has primary decision-making authority on some issues and should share authority with or advise administrators on others — is written into MU’s faculty bylaws. But controversies over the University of Missouri Press and Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute have put some professors at odds with administrators, including the chancellor.

"You look at the collected rules and you recognize that there is a true wisdom to having faculty in charge of curriculum," said chemical engineering professor Galen Suppes. "Not only are these collective rules there, but they make good sense and we have to follow them to attract good faculty."

Several faculty and staff members complained about Deaton’s handling of the institute’s future. The Faculty Council asked Deaton to restore the institute to its original form after administrators split it into a research program and academic program in March.

"Chancellor Deaton has done zero about that," institute secretary Latricia Vaughn said of the council’s resolution. "Zippo. Nada. Nothing."

Suppes said he viewed Deaton’s inaction as a breach of shared governance.

"The chancellor knows what faculty governance is," Suppes said. "Doing nothing can be a major aggressive action. It can be a major indication of a lack of integrity."

Suppes and Vaughn urged Wolfe to consider integrity and honesty as top priorities in a new chancellor.

**Higher education funding**

Students and faculty highlighted an ability to bring in funding as another important quality in a chancellor. Many of the 11 people who spoke at the meeting said they were concerned by the state’s shrinking education funding. They said they needed a chancellor who can lobby with legislators in Jefferson City but also rein in major private donations.

"The university is not going to make it on the basis of the assets and resources that are here within Missouri," said Elizabeth Cogswell, senior director of development at MU. "Therefore, we need to look outside of Missouri much more than we have."
Speaking for the students, Missouri Students Association President Nick Droege said the next chancellor needs to be accessible to, and advocating for, students.

"It's becoming more and more important that we have a chancellor that is advocating on behalf of students and is going to interact with legislators and is going to fight for students, the university, faculty, staff and funding in general." Droege said.

Droege said a chancellor should focus on the accessibility of higher education. This includes not only keeping college costs low, but also providing support services.

"We have more and more students going to college, but we have an increased percentage of first-year dropouts," Droege said. "Focusing on the resources we're using to retain our students is also extremely important."

Search details

The system is using California search firm Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates to help the system identify candidates. It's the same firm the system used to place Hank Foley as executive vice president of academic affairs in June.

Wolfe said the quick, three-month search for Foley, who came to the system from Pennsylvania State University, was part of the reason the system decided to work with the firm again. He said search firms are essential to help coax high-level administrators out of their positions at other universities.

"All of the competitive candidates did not come from responding to an ad in the Chronicle (of Higher Education)," Wolfe said of the system's last search. "They were pulled out of their seats and pulled out of their comfort zone by the search firm."

Peter Wilden, an associate professor in the School of Medicine, asked Wolfe to consider looking at candidates who once worked at MU but left for administrative positions at other universities.

Wolfe said his own connections to MU helped land him the job as system president and acknowledged that a strong candidate would likely have connections to the state or the system.

"I would suspect an Ivy League New Englander that has never ventured out of New England wouldn't be comfortable in this role," Wolfe said.
Additional concerns

Referring to a slew of retirements expected among deans and provosts, Cogswell asked that the new chancellor be experienced in hiring.

"I hope that you will take a hard look at the hiring that this person has done in their previous position," Cogswell said. "There is going to be real turnover here."

Athletics department assistant Gary Link reminded meeting attendees to throw their support behind the next chancellor, regardless of whether or not they think the person was right for the job.

"We have to all get behind him or her," Link said. "We have to back this person with everything we can to make this great university even better."

*Supervising editor is Elizabeth Brixey.*
Readers might not have picked up on the significance of a story a week ago announcing the University of Missouri as the site of the 18th annual International Conference on Condensed Matter Nuclear Fusion. What, you say? Condensed matter, indeed.

Well, this worldwide clambake notices the reinvigoration of research into the possibilities of what is commonly known to science nincompoops like writers of editorials as cold fusion. Those of us with limited insight into the mysteries of physics, and most of those claiming to be professionals in the field, gave up on cold fusion years ago when scientists could not promptly replicate the discovery by a couple of Utah researchers of a simple laboratory nuclear reaction that released surprising amounts of heat, hinting at a new and better way to generate nuclear energy.

Despite this exciting promise, the wizards of the physics world pronounced cold fusion dead. But blessedly MU Vice Chancellor of Research Rob Duncan kept the faith, and last year, debating the issue on CBS' 60-minute program, stimulated a worldwide wakeup call. Duncan said on the program that the scientific community was in error by writing off cold fusion and, with typical alacrity, was able to explain why in a few thousand well-chosen words only a physicist could love but even the most bucolic listener could grasp.

The rest is evolving history. With the help of money from apparel mogul Sidney Kimmel and continuing encouragement from Duncan, MU established the Sidney Kimmel Institute for Nuclear Renaissance, allowing a team of campus researchers led by nuclear engineering Professor Mark Prelas to renew study into what they call tabletop fusion.

Duncan, sounding like the true scientist as he contradicted others in the field, said, "The fact that we're seeing something here that we don't understand — I see it as a huge opportunity for basic physics research to try to understand why we don't understand it." If that's not an enigmatic but apt description of what basic research is all about, what is?
So, where else to hold this year's condensed-matter conclave, and who else to serve as its chairman? MU and Duncan are chosen, and the implications could be important, indeed.

Annette Sobel says this is the first time the conference has been held in the Midwest, indicating belated acknowledgement the hinterlands might have something to contribute to one of the world's most exciting areas of research. Sobel is the assistant to the MU provost for strategic opportunities and program organizer for the conference. She also is Duncan's wife. The pair successfully pitched MU at last year's conference in South Korea.

The fact that Duncan and MU are leading a renewal of this research is a big deal, not only for MU's reputation but for the benefit it might bring to the world. If cold fusion turns out to be the hoped-for viable source of nuclear energy without the downsides of current technology, Duncan and MU will deserve a place in history for bringing the science back from the dead and revolutionizing the way we generate electrical energy.

We'll never know unless we try to understand what we don't understand.

HJW III

The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science.

— ALBERT EINSTEIN

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Posted in The Tribunes View on Monday, July 22, 2013 2:00 pm.
MU to incorporate new emergency alert system in fall semester

By Danielle Renton
July 22, 2013 | 6:00 a.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — MU will install a new emergency alert system throughout buildings on campus to better inform students, faculty and staff during an emergency, said Karlan Seville, MU Campus Facilities communications manager.

Two hundred twenty-five of the emergency mass notification alert beacons will be placed in classroom and administration buildings in high-traffic areas where people are likely to congregate, Seville said. Each beacon will be equipped with a siren, strobe light, a screen where the warning can be displayed and a speaker, which will allow for an audible alert.

The new system will be utilized during weather or other types of critical emergencies on campus that would require an MU Alert.

Seville said she is hopeful that the new alerts will keep people from going outside during severe weather and will instead encourage individuals to take shelter. However, the alert beacons will not replace other means of emergency notifications.

“This is in addition to the text message and email alerts,” Seville said. “It’s just one more tool to let people know that there’s an emergency.”

The alert system will also be connected to university computers on campus.

"If it says a tornado has been spotted in Boone County and to please take shelter, that would flash on your computer screen," Seville said.

MU is using a company called Alertus for the new system. According to its website, Alertus provides services for school campuses, military bases, government buildings and many other types of facilities. Washington University in St. Louis uses the same system.

MU Campus Facilities is currently conducting preliminary work while waiting for the beacons to arrive. The project is expected to be completed early in the fall semester.
Quincy and PTSD changed Adam Morton's life

Quincy, a service dog, counteracts Morton's PTSD symptoms

MU mention page 2

By Emma Kessinger

July 4, 2013 | 12:00 a.m. CST

Some have nightmares. Some are constantly on guard for signs of danger. Others have numbing symptoms in which they have lost interest in things they used to enjoy. They all suffer from symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder.

PTSD is an anxiety disorder that can occur in response to experiencing some form of trauma, a type of incident involving the threat of harm or death or sexual assault, says Grant O’Neal, a psychologist at the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans’ Hospital.

Approximately 30 percent of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans are known to have PTSD, according to a report by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Adam Morton, 27, is one veteran who has the disorder. After two deployments — one to Baghdad and another to Baqubah, Iraq — he still deals with remnants of the war.

“Some of the things you see over there, they are with you, and it doesn’t even matter how hard you try to get it out,” he says.

Morton retired Dec. 12, 2012, after 7 1/2 years in the Army. He received 13 ribbons for his service. He tried to remain in the Army after he got hurt. Morton said he would waive his medical rights if he could stay. However, he was not allowed to continue his service.
In 2012, Morton moved to Centralia where he started showing signs of PTSD. He experiences mostly anxiety and nightmares, as well as pain from injuries he suffered during the war.

O'Neal says diagnosis of PTSD comprises three symptom clusters.

Re-experiencing occurs when the individual experiences a reaction or response, such as intrusive images or disturbing memories, related to the original trauma.

Avoidance takes place when the individual evades thinking about the trauma experience.

Hyperarousal is when the individual might be constantly alert. Individuals could also have trouble sleeping.

Although not everyone experiences all of the symptoms, individuals must demonstrate evidence from each cluster to diagnose the disorder, O'Neal says. The diagnosis of PTSD will be changing soon, though. Further understanding of the diagnosis has caused an evolving definition of the disorder.

Morton joined a program called Veterans and Shelter Dogs to help counteract the symptoms of PTSD he experiences.

The program is a research project that started in 2011 through the Research Center for Human-Animal Interaction in which dogs from the Central Missouri Humane Society are coupled with veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. ReCHAI is researching the stress reduction that can result from working with the animals, says Rebecca Johnson, professor and director of MU’s ReCHAI.

During the hour-long program that meets twice each week, the veterans focus on teaching dogs the basics: sit, stay and come.

Because veterans are so dedicated and skilled in their military work, they are logical dog trainers, Johnson says.

Three hundred dogs have gone through the program, and three of the dogs are trained to be PTSD service dogs.

Judy Steiner is the dog trainer who leads the program’s class. As a retired nurse, she understands the trouble the veterans have with PTSD. But every day she sees the positive effects the animals can have.

“I think when they come here, it’s an hour of their time they get absorbed in training the dog. That interaction that allows them to briefly escape some of the big weight on their shoulders,” Steiner says.

If a shelter dog shows potential to be a PTSD service dog, a veteran can train it to become one, Steiner says. The veterans work with Steiner to raise service dogs.
The training program for service dogs is very similar to that for any other dog. However, it requires additional discipline for particular skills that are individualized for the veteran they are placed with, Johnson says.

"Dogs are unconditionally loving, and they are very grateful for the training, the work and the love that the veterans give them," Johnson says.

Because of Quincy's calm demeanor and willingness to learn, Morton began training him to be a PTSD service dog. The dog helps ease his anxiety in crowded places and provides much-needed companionship.

Quincy goes everywhere Morton goes.

In public, Quincy stays by Morton's side at all times. Although the dog's golden coat and golden-brown eyes are inviting, his large build can be quite intimidating.

It's been 18 months since Morton retired from the Army, and he has decided to move to Kandahar, Afghanistan, to work with Blackwater, a private military contracting company. He applied a few months ago and didn't think anything would come of it. When he got the job offer a few weeks ago, he decided to sign the contract, which requires six months of work overseas.

Morton will be taking Quincy with him during his 6-month rotation. The duo will leave for Afghanistan on July 12.

- Contact an editor with corrections or additional information
Wholesome change coming to high-profile River Market corner

July 22

By KEVIN COLLISON

The University of Missouri Extension, champion of all things healthy living, is relocating to a historic building at 105 E. Fifth St. right across from the entrance to the City Market. And it's taking the space once occupied by one of downtown's nastier nightclubs, the Skybox.

"I feel like Betty Crocker is coming to the neighborhood," quipped Dana Gibson, a longtime leading citizen of the River Market.

The Skybox was a recipe for mayhem during its approximately two years at that corner.

The club opened in the late summer of 2006 and the following year police were called there 128 times. In October 2007, its liquor license was revoked for 21 days after a shooting, several assaults and a large-scale disturbance. But that was just a warm-up to the following year.

Just one hour after the start of the New Year, two women got into a brawl inside the club and when the fight spilled outside, a man was stabbed to death. It was the first homicide of 2008. The place closed a few months later.

"It was the far-edge of extreme partying," Gibson recalled. "There were nightly fights and altercations, and unfortunately shootings and loss of life. It was terrible for the people who lived and worked down here, and it was right across from the City Market."

The space on the lower level of the five-story Oldham Hotel building sat empty for five years. Then last summer, the MU Extension folks found it. The program is currently at Pioneer Community College, 2700 E. 18th St.

"We were looking for an opportunity to be in a vibrant and active community in Kansas City," said Rachel Gordon, director of the family nutrition education program. "We wanted a physical presence where we could reach our targeted audience."

The MU Extension already had been operating a demonstration kitchen at the City Market for eight summers. The location across from the entrance was a chance to become a permanent fixture.
“There’s a real interest in urban farming and urban agriculture, and the City Market is a great hub of food and agriculture in the city,” Gordon said.

The extension service will use the basement, first and second floors, and the operation will include a demonstration kitchen and two large classrooms along with administrative offices. The facility will be open weekdays and when classes are held during the evenings and weekends. Parking will be at the City Market.

Construction began earlier this month and is expected to be completed in late August. MU Extension has signed a five-year lease with MC Realty, the landlord of the building.

The Oldham Hotel opened in 1916 and is part of the Old Town Historic District which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, according to architectural historian Cyd Milstein. Its upper floors are currently occupied by smaller office users.

Come September, a joint once notorious for brawling and police calls will instead be hosting classes on nutrition, horticulture, financial education and community development.

“I think we all appreciate the irony and look forward to bringing a new service to the River Market with a more positive connotation,” Gordon said.

For downtown, the transformation of the corner from urban headache to community asset resembles what happened at 1111 Grand Blvd. last year.

That’s when the Ambassador hotel opened in space formerly occupied by Club Chemical, another problem nightclub that had the dubious distinction of being linked to the first homicide of 2004.
COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Mizzou International Composers Festival strives to inspire conversation

By Shannon Elliott
July 22, 2013 | 6:00 a.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Composers are a unique breed. They give sound to the emotions you feel and the experiences you have. They hear music in their heads, to the point where some leave a tape recorder on their bedside tables, just in case they wake up in the night humming a melody.

The Mizzou International Composers Festival emphasizes the composer. Formerly known as the Mizzou New Music Summer Festival, it will bring together two renowned composers, eight emerging composers, two guest performing artists, a famous ensemble that specializes in performing new music and contemporary music lovers from around the world to Columbia for the week.

The goal is to open up the dialogue among composer, ensemble and audience.

"That's what we're looking to do — create dialogue between the nation and the state about a composer's role in society and how we can embrace and enhance that and how can we bring more attention to it," said William Lackey, managing director of the festival and an assistant teaching professor of composition at MU.

It begins with a name change.

Lackey said the word "international" was added to the festival's title to reflect the geographically broader interest in the event since it started four years ago. "New music" was dropped because when people hear the term, it could mean anything to them. Adding "composers" to the name helps focus the festival.

Composers and ensembles

The festival's artistic directors chose this year's eight resident composers from about 150 composers based on the technical skill, diversity and uniqueness of their portfolios as well
as their abilities to write for an ensemble with specific instrumentation such as Alarm Will Sound, the main performing ensemble of the festival.

The resident composers are Andrew Davis of Columbia, Md.; Elizabeth A. Kelly of Los Angeles; Eric Guinivan of Wilmington, Del.; Greg Simon of the greater Detroit area; Wei-Chieh Lin of Taichung, Taiwan; Jason Thorpe Buchanan of California; Ryan Chase of Bloomington, Ind.; and David Witter of Columbia.

"You don't know where the great composers are going to come from," said Jeanne Sinquefield, the festival's main benefactor and the primary private financial supporter of composition at the MU School of Music. She opened her home south of Jefferson City for Alarm Will Sound to rehearse and stay in the week before the festival.

Sinquefield has made it her goal to make Missouri a mecca for composition by finding and assisting composers through producing and sharing their work. She thinks it's critical for composers to have the chance to share their music with a wider audience.

The eight composers get a chance to develop their skills by working with the ensemble that will perform their piece and by hearing directly from the audience. This is a rare opportunity in that composers often have no idea who will play their music, and the meaning of their work is subject to the interpretations — or misinterpretations — of conductors or performers.

"We're really doing our best to capture their voice in the performance," said Stefan Freund, an artistic director of the festival and the founding cellist of Alarm Will Sound. "A lot can be lost in translation, but when you've got the composer there, they're listening to what you're doing and they can respond instantly to what they hear."

Composers and the audience

The conversation between composer and ensemble is only the beginning. The audience is a key participant.

"A composer isn't writing in isolation," said Thomas McKenney, also an artistic director of the festival and a professor of composition and music theory at MU. "He's trying to communicate musical ideas and communicate them to the listener, and so if there's no one there to listen, the communication process isn't finished."

For the first time, the week's full schedule is available in advance — an attempt to foster greater audience involvement. The main performances do not begin until Thursday, but daily
presentations will be offered by McKenney and Freund, the resident composers, guest composers Augusta Read Thomas and Daniel Kellogg. Alarm Will Sound hosts open rehearsals during the day.

"If anyone available during the day came to these open rehearsals, I think they'd get to see a certain side of music production that they don’t always get to see," Lackey said.

"I think that the more a person hears a new piece of music, the more familiar they become with it," McKenney said. "Therefore, they can understand it better."

These open rehearsals and presentations give audiences the opportunity to put a face with the music and more directly understand why the composer chose to create it.

"We want the audience to say, ‘These are people.’ They're not just names on the program. They're walking, talking human beings. They want you to enjoy the music," Freund said. "I believe that helps build a bond."

**After the festival**

The festival is also intended to help composers ground themselves professionally. Most emerging composers would not have the opportunity to get a recording of professional performers playing their pieces due to lack of access, Freund said.

At the end of the festival, each composer receives a recording of Alarm Will Sound performing his or her piece, which can then be used to apply for jobs, to schools or for grants.

"I haven’t heard of a single composer in residence that's been here and hasn't come away truly excited about this festival and what it does for them," McKenney said. In the bigger picture, McKenney and others see the festival as enriching the culture of Columbia.

"Culture is about the sharing of knowledge and ideas," said Freund, an associate professor of composition and music theory at MU and a composer in his own right. "I think the more that we share about ourselves as people, the more we see what’s special about us, which brings us together."

"If you listen to my music, you understand me better as a person," he continued. "And if we hear eight different pieces in one evening, we basically hear eight different cultural statements about where they come from, who they are, and what they appreciate as art, as musical art form."