Richard Bowen Loftin, the outgoing president of Texas A&M University, was introduced Thursday morning as the new chancellor at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

The official announcement on the Columbia campus followed a national search that began shortly after former Chancellor Brady Deaton announced in June that he was retiring from the post effective Nov. 15.

Loftin will start Feb. 1.

Like Deaton at MU, Loftin is credited with transitioning Texas A&M out of the Big 12 athletic conference and into the SEC.

Loftin, 64, has been president at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas, since February 2010. He was named to that post after having served as the university’s interim president since June 2009.

In July, Loftin announced plans to retire as president in January 2014, a month shy of his four-year anniversary at A&M, to spend more time with students. He negotiated a departure package of more than $850,000, in addition to a tenured faculty and administrative position that would have paid him $311,000 annually.

When he announced he was stepping away from the A&M presidency, Loftin said he “missed the opportunity to teach and do research ...” and that he was looking forward to “leading multidisciplinary research teams.”

Texas A&M had plans to help Loftin establish an institute to focus on human behavioral modeling in terrorist organizations and the spread of diseases among human and animal populations.
MU faculty members said they were happy about University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe’s choice for chancellor.

“His priorities would fit our priorities,” said Craig Roberts, who chairs MU’s faculty council. “It makes sense. A&M is a top land-grant, research institution in the Association of American Universities.”

MU has been an AAU university since 1908; Texas A&M joined in 2001. More than half of the doctoral degrees awarded in the United States come from AAU institutions. Their primary focus is graduate study and research.

Faculty leaders said that MU has made raising its rank with the AAU one of its top priorities.

Roberts said Loftin “has excelled in research and teaching and we try to emphasis both of those here. The reason that is important is that we need someone who demonstrates he can do what he is asking everyone else here to do. Someone who walks the walk. He has credibility.”

He said faculty “can’t say this is a slam dunk until he does his job, but I can say that faculty is optimistic and very pleased with this hire.”

Before taking the reins as interim president and then president at Texas A&M, Loftin, a 1970 graduate of A&M, had spent four years as the vice president and chief executive officer of the university’s branch campus in Galveston. He holds a master’s and a doctoral degree in physics, both from Rice University.

Under Loftin’s leadership, enrollment at Texas A&M grew to record numbers of more than 50,000 students and the university racked up more than $700 million in research grants. At the time of his resignation, Loftin was overseeing a university merger with Health Science Center and the acquisition of Texas Wesleyan Law School.

His wife, Karin C. Loftin, is an associate biosafety officer with the Office of Research Compliance and Biosafety at Texas A&M.
Loftin reflects on Sumlin hire, SEC move and why he’s headed to Missouri

Posted on December 5, 2013 | By Brent Zwerneman

COLLEGE STATION – R. Bowen Loftin has exited Aggieland with a satisfied smile, and he has reason to be proud of his many accomplishments at Texas A&M. Loftin, named Missouri’s chancellor-elect today, helped shove the Aggies into the Southeastern Conference, and he helped hire the man who’s made the move quite successful so far on the A&M football front.

“I was right there in that process, and it wasn’t always easy,” Loftin said today of the firing of then-coach Mike Sherman and the hiring of Kevin Sumlin two years ago this month. “But we made some very good choices, in my opinion, and the evidence bears out that fact. I adore coach Sumlin, and he is exactly the right person for A&M, both today and tomorrow.”

I visited with Loftin, A&M’s famously bow-tied president since 2010, by phone today for nearly 30 minutes in advance of the press conference in Columbia, Mo., naming him Missouri’s next chancellor. While the announcement was made in July that Loftin, 64, intended to return to the classroom at A&M in January, it was evident he was being forced from his presidency, as it turns out by chancellor John Sharp according to multiple insiders, despite being one of the most popular presidents in the university’s storied history – especially with current students.

“I knew I had to be the kind of president who was accessible to students,” Loftin recalled today. “I also recognized that we exist for them. We fundamentally exist for one reason: to serve our students.”

Loftin declined to discuss specifics of his departure from the A&M presidency, but said he was sincere in planning on a return to the A&M classroom. Then Missouri, like A&M in its second year in the SEC, called.

“I was quite honestly saying what I believed at that time – I didn’t see a future outside of Texas A&M,” Loftin said. “I felt the logical path many former presidents follow – Ray Bowen most recently – was to remain at your home campus and pursue the academic life you once enjoyed. Missouri wasn’t an opportunity I envisioned in July, but time marches on.”
I’m writing my weekly column for Friday’s paper on what Loftin meant to A&M athletics, and it was admittedly odd hearing Loftin, who’s become somewhat of a folk hero around Aggieland, speak in terms of both A&M and Missouri in relation to the SEC. But it’s the world he suddenly lives in.

“We now have a stage we never had before,” Loftin said. “Both schools now have a platform they never had before in terms of visibility. All of your history, tradition and strengths can literally be put out there on a stage for the world to see.

“It’s an incredible setting for both Texas A&M and Missouri.”
Loftin to become chancellor

By Jacob Bogage

**R. Bowen Loftin, the outgoing president of Texas A&M University, will become MU's 22nd chancellor Feb. 1, 2014, the university announced Thursday.**

“I can tell you with great certainty on what we set out to achieve several months ago. We have indeed found excellence in our new leader, Bowen Loftin,” UM System President Tim Wolfe said in his announcement.

Wolfe said Loftin, 64, fit the search committee’s criteria perfectly, stressing his abilities to direct a land-grant university and warm personality.

“Who I am, where I came from matches exactly why this university came to exist,” Loftin said. “It gives me great comfort that I match you and you match me.”

Wearing a gold bow tie dotted with black dots in the shape of the state of Missouri, Loftin repeatedly pointed to the importance of faculty and students and cited MU’s assets as a major motivator behind his decision to take the position.

“No university can be everything,” Loftin said. “You’ve got to identify where you want to be special … and the good news is you’ve got a lot to be proud of here at Mizzou.”

Loftin announced in July he would leave the A&M presidency in January 2014. He has held the post since February 2010, after serving eight months prior as interim president.

At the time, he said he would remain a tenured faculty member at Texas A&M’s Dwight Look College of Engineering in the department of industrial and systems engineering.

“There aren’t many schools I would have thought of associating with after Texas A&M, and Missouri fits all the pieces,” Loftin said.

The College Station, Texas, school has grown to record numbers under Loftin, exceeding 50,000 students. Loftin also led the Aggies from the Big 12 Conference to the Southeastern Conference at the same time former Missouri Chancellor Brady Deaton made the move as well.

Under Loftin, A&M research expenditures have reached almost $700 million and the school brought in $740 million in gifts during the 2013 fiscal year.
At the time of his resignation announcement, A&M officials said Loftin’s top project was the school’s merger with the Health Science Center and acquisition of Texas Wesleyan Law School.

Before his move to College Station, Loftin was the vice president and CEO of Texas A&M University at Galveston. He has also held leadership positions at Old Dominion University in Virginia and the University of Houston.

“I announced my retirement, not as a member of the A&M team, but as president,” Loftin said Thursday, adding that he was sincerely interested in remaining an active part of Texas A&M’s faculty until he was approached by MU.

As his date of resignation drew nearer, he said he would have rather continued to impact thousands of students as an administrator, rather than hundreds as a professor or researcher.

Loftin graduated from Texas A&M in 1970 with a degree in physics and holds a master’s and doctoral degree in physics from Rice University, earned in 1973 and 1975, respectively.

He first came to Columbia later in the decade to conduct research on MU’s nuclear reactor.

“I really appreciate the hospitality I was afforded that many years ago,” he said.

Loftin was selected out of three finalists for the position, Wolfe said. The national search began just after Deaton announced his retirement in June. Loftin said he was approached by the search committee almost two months ago and said the hiring process progressed “on a good clip.”

He will receive an annual salary of $450,000, according to a university news release. Deaton made upwards of $337,000 in his final year as MU chancellor.

Loftin said he hopes one day to return to a faculty role but expects to spend at least the next five years as MU chancellor.

“I wouldn’t have even dreamed of coming here without a long-term commitment,” he said.

Loftin is known as one of the most popular presidents at A&M.

He manages his own Twitter account and often eats lunch at the student union. The Aggies’ women’s basketball team gave out bow ties to the first 1,500 students who arrived at “R. Bowen Loftin Appreciation Night” against San Diego State on Tuesday. He was roasted to celebrate his retirement in October by A&M’s 12th Man Kickoff Team as a fundraiser.
Loftin: 'Missouri fits all the pieces'

R. Bowden Loftin named next chancellor of MU
Thursday, December 5, 2013 | 3:11 p.m. CST; updated 3:29 p.m. CST, Thursday, December 5, 2013

BY MISSOURIAN STAFF

COLUMBIA — MU's 22nd leader, R. Bowen Loftin, said he still cares deeply about teaching but would be able to affect thousands rather than a few students by continuing administrative work.

As the new chancellor, Loftin has a lot in common with MU's outgoing one, Brady Deaton. Loftin met the campus community for the first time in his new role Thursday morning.

"I could be a poster child for a land grant," he said. Similar to Deaton, he grew up in what he called a "poor town" — Navasota, Texas — to parents who lacked much formal education. His father finished the sixth grade; his mother finished high school.

"Texas A&M was the land grant that reached out to me," Loftin said. "I truly believe the land-grant mission."

Land-grant universities exist to make higher education more accessible to everyday Americans. They evolved in the late 1800s as an alternative to the abstract, liberal arts focus that many universities then provided.

Additionally, research at land-grand universities should "inform the decision making of citizens and leaders at the community and state levels," according to a report Deaton wrote in June 2012.

'Missouri fits all the pieces'
During his introduction speech, Loftin said honesty defines him and is essential to a successful career.
"Who I am, where I came from matches exactly why this university exists," Loftin said. "It gives me great comfort that I match you and you match me."

In addition to MU's four principles of respect, responsibility, diversity and excellence, Loftin said one of the virtues that governs his life is integrity.

"Integrity is my lot in life," he said. "I will always hold myself to the highest standards of integrity. It's my core value."

He said that a reputation, once tainted, can never be restored.

He leaves Texas A&M with a transition package of double his annual $425,000 salary, according to an agreement signed by Texas A&M University System Chancellor John Sharp and dated Aug. 20, 2013.

The Missourian is attempting to find out if Loftin's transition package has changed since his decision to leave Texas A&M.

Texas A&M's 11-member system is overseen by a chancellor. The UM System is overseen by a president.

"There aren't many schools I would have even thought about associating with after Texas A&M, but Missouri fits all the pieces," Loftin said.

He said July 16 that he stepped down as president to spend more time with students in the classroom, according to a July interview with the Bryan-College Station Eagle. He also said that he anticipates spending at least the next five years as MU’s chancellor but that he eventually wants to return to teaching.

"I wouldn't even have dreamed of coming here unless I was going to commit for many years," Loftin, 64, said. "Five years and beyond is what I would think about in terms of tenure as a chancellor. Hopefully more than five."

He will not be contractually employed, according to a UM System news release. Loftin will work "at-will ... with no guaranteed length of employment, or buyout provisions," the release said.

Deaton also served "at-will," system spokesman John Fougere said.
Loftin said that money wasn't the reason he left Texas A&M, where he has worked as president since 2010, and that, to many faculty, salary isn't the biggest factor in determining employment.

Loftin will make $450,000 annually when he starts Feb. 1, 2014. MU is also paying $135,000 for moving expenses and loss of deferred compensation and up to $45,000 in relocation costs.

Loftin said MU needs new faculty and money isn't the only way to get them here.

"Faculty doesn’t necessarily come for money," he said. "They want a place where they can actually bloom. A fit for a faculty member is critical for them. I've been there."

In addition to recruiting new faculty, Loftin wants to ensure MU’s status in the Association of American Universities and build on the goals laid out in the Mizzou Advantage plan.

Administrators implemented the plan in 2010 to focus on MU’s key strengths — food, media, health and energy.

Loftin said he acknowledged that universities can't be good at everything.

"No university can be everything," Loftin said. "You've got to identify those things where you want to be special."

Reactions to Loftin

Before announcing Loftin, Wolfe said the 18-member search committee honored the input that 600 people provided at two town hall-style meetings over the summer.

Wolfe said many of Loftin’s experiences and skills matched with the qualities people said they wanted in the next chancellor. These included experience at an AAU institution, passion for the school's land-grant status, communication and relational skills, ability to generate new revenue streams, collegiality and shared governance and promoting diversity and inclusion among the campus community.

Loftin noted that two former AAU members, the University of Nebraska and Syracuse University, recently were booted from the group and that it was important to maintain MU's standing in the organization.

"He is one of the most respected leaders in higher education today and someone who deeply understands and appreciates the challenge of leading a public, land-grant, AAU institution," Wolfe said.
He adores students and is famous for his command of social media, Wolfe said.

According to the search committee, one of the chancellor’s key roles is representing the university’s interests in interactions with state legislators.

State Rep. John Wright, D-Rocheport, said college affordability for Missouri residents is one of his priorities in working with Loftin.

Wright said he wants to discuss tuition levels and scholarship programs with Loftin to ensure that an MU education is as accessible as possible for in-state students.

Wright also hopes to increase the scale of the Missouri College Advisory Corps, a program that sends MU graduates to 26 Missouri high schools to encourage college attendance.

In light of Missouri football’s recent success, Wright said he’s glad Loftin made the switch from Texas A&M to MU.

"We're happy to show him he's riding the right horse now," he said.

**Wolfe: 'the right fit'**

Wolfe picked Loftin from a pool of three candidates primarily because of his land-grant experience, personality and cultural experiences.

"Bowen was the right choice for this position because of his understanding of the land grant mission," Wolfe said. "He also has the personality and fit from a cultural standpoint that is just perfect for the state of Missouri. He absolutely is the right fit from a personality and leadership standpoint."

The search firm the UM System hired to facilitate the search, Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, approached Loftin two months ago, he said.

Wolfe said Texas colleges and universities have endured state funding cuts, much like Missouri has in past years. In the face of these cuts, Wolfe said Loftin secured more than $740 million in donations over a fiscal year for Texas A&M — a record for the school.
GEORGE KENNEDY: Loftin says MU is 'right match'

Thursday, December 5, 2013 | 5:01 p.m. CST
BY GEORGE KENNEDY

There was an eruption of bow ties Thursday morning in the Great Room of the Reynolds Alumni Center. Our new chancellor-designate, R. (stands for Richard) Bowen Loftin, who favors them, noticed.

"Flattery will work," he quipped. His introduction to the campus was off to a great start.

University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe, who hired him, described Dr. Loftin as a "dynamic leader" and a "higher education visionary." That remains to be seen, of course, but he came across, at least to me, as a down-to-earth guy, comfortable with himself and pretty sure he knows what it takes to make a university great.

The one thing that puzzled me – and continues to puzzle me a little despite his several answers to the question – was why he would want to leave Texas for Missouri.

He had a sweet deal at Texas A&M University. He had announced last summer his intention to step down as president (the office we call chancellor) of that system’s flagship campus to return to teaching and research. He had been given a golden parachute of $850,000 and the promise of a $311,000 faculty salary. His wife was also retiring from her position with the equivalent of our Institutional Review Board. He was 64 years old.

Texas A&M is bigger, by at least some measures better and richer than MU.

He had taken the A&M job in 2010, first on an interim basis, to replace the university’s first female Hispanic president, who had been forced to resign after clashes with her
boss, called the chancellor in that system and the president in ours. Before that, he oversaw the branch campus in Galveston.

A Houston Chronicle article from Dec. 9, 2012, described him as a kind of academic rock star working the crowd at a football game, wildly popular after leading the university into the Southeastern Conference and leaving arch-rival University of Texas at Austin in the shrunken Big 12 Conference.

How could you not like a university president who regularly ran onto the field with students to help scoop up the horse manure after the mounted drill team passed by? The article noted that when status-conscious critics complained that poop-scooping wasn’t his job, he replied, "This IS the job of the president.”

President Wolfe didn’t mention that. Instead, he talked about A&M’s 56,000-plus students, its more than $700 million a year in research spending and its fundraising, which last year alone yielded more than $700 million. He also noted that Dr. Loftin is a physicist with more than 100 publications to his credit.

He said Dr. Loftin was "loved" on the A&M campus.

That turns out not to be universally true. A friend who teaches there sent an email Thursday morning with the subject line "You have my deepest sympathy." The friend reported that Dr. Loftin’s nickname among many faculty members is "Bowtie-Sock Puppet," based on the belief that the ideas he espouses have been handed down from his superiors.

I got the strong impression Thursday that he shares, if he doesn’t echo, President Wolfe’s goals of a quicker-moving, more tightly focused, more productive flagship. He had warm words for outgoing Chancellor Brady Deaton (who got a standing round of applause when he was introduced). But he said, as Wolfe has, that universities can no longer try to do everything but must identify strengths and build on those.

Our recently released Strategic Operating Plan, which was extensively rewritten to the president’s specifications, makes a solid foundation, he said.

Later, responding to the "why" question, he insisted that his announced intention to return to teaching was "actually true." He added, "I really love students."
When the search firm contacted him two months or so ago, he said, he and his wife did some "soul-searching." Their conclusion was that he can impact the lives of far more students leading a campus he described as "a special place." This, he said, was the "right match."

Dr. Loftin isn’t the first Aggie we’ve hired to lead us. Remember Haskell Monroe? He was a longtime dean at A&M. His finest moment here, I’ve always thought, was his decision to quit rather than implement yet another round of budget cuts. He lives now in College Station, Dr. Loftin said, and has nothing but good things to say about MU and Columbia.

Chancellor Monroe was with us for six years. Asked Thursday how long he hopes to stay, Dr. Loftin seemed to calculate for a moment and then responded that he’s shooting for five years or more.

Let’s hope he makes it.

*George Kennedy is a former managing editor at the Missourian and professor emeritus at the Missouri School of Journalism. He writes a weekly column for the Missourian.*
Meet MU's next chancellor: R. Bowen Loftin

Wednesday, December 4, 2013 | 9:34 p.m. CST; updated 6:59 a.m. CST, Thursday, December 5, 2013

BY ELISE SCHMELZER

COLUMBIA — Here are some things you might want to know about R. Bowen Loftin, who will be MU's next chancellor, according to reports by the Bryan-College Station Eagle.

According to his curriculum vitae published in August 2010:

LAST JOB: President of Texas A&M since February 2010

EDUCATION: 1975 doctorate degree in physics from Rice University in Houston, Texas; 1973 master's in physics from Rice University; 1970 bachelor's degree in physics from Texas A&M

PREVIOUS JOBS: Vice president and professor at Texas A&M and chief executive officer of Texas A&M University at Galveston from 2005 to 2010, professor at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, from 2000 to 2005

WIFE: Dr. Karin Christiane Loftin, an associate biosafety officer at Texas A&M, according to the university's Office of the President website

CHILDREN: Two adult children, Elisabeth and Benjamin, and three grandchildren

TWITTER: @aggieprez

FACEBOOK: R. Bowen Loftin
A look at Texas A&M's and Missouri's values
Thursday, December 5, 2013 | 11:44 a.m. CST; updated 12:46 p.m. CST, Thursday, December 5, 2013

BY MISSOURIAN STAFF

As R. Bowen Loftin takes the reins as MU Chancellor, here's a look at his former university's key values and MU's.

**Texas A&M Core Values**

**Excellence — Set the bar.**
Excellence stems from a great sense of pride in who we are and what we believe in. - *Former Texas A&M President Dr. Robert Gates*
There's an optimism, a faith in the future and an attitude that propels Aggies to take on the impossible - look at Red/White/Blue-Out. - *Texas A&M Leadership*
We could do just about anything if we tried hard enough. - *Former Student*

- Center for Teaching Excellence
- University Honors Program
- Texas A&M University Vision 2020 Plan
- Texas A&M University Division of Research

**Integrity – Character is destiny**
The Aggie Code of Honor which Aggies recite by heart: 'Aggies do not lie, cheat or steal nor tolerate those that do' shows what goes to the heart of being an Aggie. - *Texas A&M Leadership*
Integrity was the core value that A&M gave me more of than any other. It helped me succeed in my career because my fellow professionals, clients and friends knew that they could rely on me and my word. - *Former Student*

- Aggie Honor System Office
- Texas A&M University Code of Conduct
Leadership — Follow me.
If you don't want to be a leader of character, don't come here. - Former Corps Commandant LTG John Van Alstyne
The spirit of leadership is instilled in every student - whether they go on to lead in the boardroom or in the backyard - they have the values, the confidence and the experience to lead change in their world. - Texas A&M Leadership
  - Texas A&M Student Government Association
  - ATMentors
  - Memorial Student Center

Loyalty — Acceptance forever.
Through unity, strength. - Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets Motto
I'm proud to be a part of a family that will always be there for me that's 48,000 members strong...and that's not counting all those that came before or will come after. - Current Texas A&M Student
Loyalty and respect for tradition is about a sense of belonging to something greater than yourself. You're a part of a history of traditions...of a larger community. - Former Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. David Prior
  - Association of Former Students
  - Texas A&M Traditions

Respect — We are the Aggies, the Aggies are we.
A&M students aren't just joining a university, they're joining a lifelong family that understands the value of loyalty, camaraderie, and unconditional support. - Texas A&M Leadership
A&M students embody a refreshing spirit: born of the values of friendliness, caring, support, confidence and a can-do attitude. - Former Student
  - Aggie Muster
  - Diversity at Texas A&M

Selfless Service — How can I be of service?
If I had to tell you about Aggie values in one sentence I would simply ask the question: How can I be of service? - Current Texas A&M Student
A&M encourages volunteerism, encourages being one of a thousand points of light, helping others... and it comes naturally to Aggies. - Former U.S. President George Bush
University of Missouri

Respect
Respect for one's self and for others is the foundation of honor and the basis of integrity. A hallmark of our community is respect — for the process by which we seek truths and for those who engage in that process. Such respect is essential for nurturing the free and open discourse, exploration and creative expression that characterize a university. Respect results in dedication to individual as well as collective expressions of truth and honesty. Respect is demonstrated by a commitment to act ethically, to welcome difference, and to engage in open exchange about both ideas and decisions.

Responsibility
A sense of responsibility requires careful reflection on one’s moral obligations. Being responsible imposes the duty on us and our university to make decisions by acknowledging the context and considering consequences, both intended and unintended, of any course of action. Being responsible requires us to be thoughtful stewards of resources — accountable to ourselves, each other and the publics we serve.

Discovery
Learning requires trust in the process of discovery. Discovery often fractures existing world views and requires acceptance of uncertainty and ambiguity. Therefore, the university must support all its members in this lifelong process that is both challenging and rewarding. As we seek greater understanding and wisdom, we also recognize that knowledge itself has boundaries. What we know is not all that is.

Excellence
We aspire to an excellence that is approached through diligent effort, both individual and collective. Pursuing excellence means being satisfied with no less than the highest goals we can envision. Pursuing excellence involves being informed by regional, national and global standards, as well as our personal expectations. We recognize and accept the sacrifices, risks and responsibilities involved in pursuing excellence, and so we celebrate
each other's successes. We commit ourselves to this process in an ethical and moral manner.

These statements are mere words until we integrate them as values in our individual lives and reflect them in our institutional policies and practices. We pledge ourselves to make them effective in the very fabric of our lives, our community, and all our relationships with others, thereby enhancing the development of individuals and the well-being of society.
Editorial: New university chancellor faces serious funding challenges

1 hour ago • By the Editorial Board

Texas A&M President R. Bowen Loftin addresses members of state and national media in the A&M Board of Regents room in College Station Texas on Aug. 15, 2011. (AP Photo/Bryan-College Station Eagle, Dave McDermand)

In July, Brady Deaton and R. Bowen Loftin were among 165 university chancellors and presidents representing all 50 states to address a letter to President Barack Obama and Congress asking that our national leaders improve funding to institutions of higher learning.

On Thursday, Mr. Loftin, formerly the president of Texas A&M University, was named the new chancellor of the University of Missouri in Columbia. He replaces Mr. Deaton, who had been chancellor since 2004.

The letter signed by Mssrs. Deaton and Loftin urges Congress to undo the harmful effects of the sequestration cuts, specifically in terms of its damage to research and development. It further pointed out that the U.S., once the world’s leader in higher education research, was in danger of falling behind other nations, creating what the university leaders call an “innovation deficit.”

“Our nation’s role as the world’s innovation leader is in serious jeopardy,” the university leaders wrote. “The combination of eroding federal investments in research and higher education, additional cuts due to sequestration, and the enormous resources other nations are pouring into these areas is creating a new kind of deficit for the United States: an innovation deficit.”
Here’s what the university leaders are talking about:

While U.S. investment in university research has stayed stagnant or, in some areas, declined, other countries are pouring huge percentages of their gross domestic product into research.

For example: Nine nations spend more on research and development as a percentage of overall government spending.

Between 2000 and 2008, research spending increased by 250 percent in South Korea and 330 percent in China. U.S. spending on research increased only 45 percent during that time, and as a percentage of the overall budget actually decreased.

Other countries are producing more young people with engineering and advanced science degrees than the U.S. is, and the result is a decreasing percentage of patents being awarded by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to entities from the U.S.

As Mr. Loftin takes the reins at the state’s flagship land-grant university, he knows all of this.

Here’s what he also needs to know:

The problem is just as bad, or worse, when it comes to state funding. No matter how you define state support for higher education — per capita, per income, as a percentage of state budget — Missouri ranks near the bottom in every category.

In the same way as national funding has declined, state support for higher education has dropped as a percentage of state funding for two decades now. That means students and parents are bearing an increasingly higher burden of overall university costs.

Mr. Loftin is inheriting a university in which 60 percent of the operating costs come from tuition.

Two decades ago, when state lawmakers believed in the state’s commitment to higher education, that percentage was 25 percent.

“We call upon you to reject unsound budget cuts and recommit to strong and sustained investments in research and education,” the university leaders wrote in their July letter. “Only then can we ensure that our nation’s promise of a better tomorrow endures.”

It’s tremendous advice. Let’s hope Mr. Loftin’s voice amplifies the same call in the Missouri Capitol when the General Assembly returns for its 2014 session in January.
MU selects outgoing Texas A&M president as chancellor

R. Bowen Loftin, outgoing Texas A&M University president, talks with Brady Deaton after being introduced as the new University of Missouri chancellor in the Reynolds Alumni Center on Thursday. Loftin succeeds Deaton, who retired Nov. 15 after nine years in the post.

By Karyn Spory

The University of Missouri football team recently beat Texas A&M University to earn a spot in the Southeastern Conference championship game, and now MU will be taking the Texas school's president.

This morning at the Reynolds Alumni Center, UM System President Tim Wolfe announced the appointment of R. Bowen Loftin, president of Texas A&M, as the 22nd chancellor of MU. Loftin will take the reins on Feb. 1. The news leaked late last night when Texas media reported on Loftin's new post.
The position became vacant after Brady Deaton retired on Nov. 15 after nine years as chancellor. UM General Counsel Steve Owens will continue to serve as interim chancellor until February, and MU Deputy Chancellor Mike Middleton will help in the transition.

"Dr. Loftin is regarded as one of the top academic leaders in the nation and one of the most beloved and respected presidents in the history of Texas A&M, and we are honored to have him join us at the University of Missouri," Wolfe said in a prepared statement.

Wolfe said Loftin's track record of leading Texas A&M's growth and advancement, credentials in research, teaching and public service were all qualities that made him a "perfect fit" for MU. Under Loftin's leadership, research expenditures at Texas A&M have reached about $700 million annually, while a new capital campaign garnered a school record $740 million in gifts during fiscal year 2013, according to a UM System news release.

Craig Roberts, Faculty Council chair, said that on paper, Loftin is a great hire. "He obviously values things like AAU standing, land-grant institutions and from what I know, he values teaching and not just research," Roberts said.

Loftin first visited Columbia in the 1970s doing research with the university's nuclear reactor.

"We look forward to working with the students, faculty and staff of the university, the UM System members and leadership and the university's enthusiastic and engaged alumni to accelerate the university's advancement as one of the very best public, land-grant universities in the nation," Loftin said in a prepared statement.

Loftin announced his retirement as Texas A&M president over the summer. At today's announcement, he said that decision was made long before he became a candidate at MU.

John Fougere, spokesman for the UM System, said Loftin is under at-will employment and not a contract, with no guaranteed length of employment or buyout provisions. Loftin will serve as general officer of MU and will report to Wolfe. His annual salary will be $450,000, and Loftin is eligible for all employee benefits. Loftin will receive an annual deferred compensation of $50,000, with three-year vesting that will be forfeited if he leaves before three years. He will receive a one-time hiring incentive of $135,000 to cover unreimbursed moving expenses and loss of unvested deferred compensation payments as well as one-time relocation expenses of as much as 10 percent of his annual salary. Loftin and his wife, Karin, will live in the Chancellor's Residence on campus.

Deaton earned a $395,000 salary when he retired.

Loftin, a professor of industrial and systems engineering, was named the 24th president of Texas A&M on Feb. 12, 2010, after serving as interim president for eight months. Before that, he was vice president of the university and chief executive officer of Texas A&M's branch campus in Galveston. Loftin also was a professor and administrator at Old Dominion University.
Loftin is a 1970 graduate of Texas A&M with a degree in physics and also holds a master's degree and doctorate from Rice University, earned in 1973 and 1975, respectively, both in physics.
Departing Texas A&M U. President Is Named New U. of Missouri Chancellor

R. Bowen Loftin, who announced in July that he planned to step down as president of Texas A&M University at College Station, has been named the next chancellor of the University of Missouri at Columbia. At the time of the previous announcement, Mr. Loftin said he would return to Texas A&M’s faculty, and the university said it would help him establish a new academic institute. Mr. Loftin will take office at Columbia in February.
Former Texas A&M President Is New MU Chancellor

ST. LOUIS — A bow-tie wearing Texan who led one of the country's largest universities has been hired as the University of Missouri's new chancellor.

R. Bowen Loftin, former president of Texas A&M, succeeds Brady Deaton, who retired in November after overseeing the flagship campus in Columbia since 2004. Missouri announced his hiring Thursday.

Missouri system President Tim Wolfe called Loftin, 64, a "dynamic leader ... to take our university to new heights."

Loftin, a native Texan, stepped down as Texas A&M's president in July after leading his alma mater for four years. He had planned to remain in College Station to direct an academic institute focused on homeland defense in the university's engineering college.

At the time, Loftin cited an interest to return to the "front lines of the academy," but on Thursday he said the opportunity to lead another prominent public university was too good to pass up.

"There aren't many schools I would think about associating with after Texas A&M," he said at a campus introduction in Columbia, clad in his trademark bowtie, this one gold with black spots, his new school colors. "Missouri fits all the pieces."
Loftin was born in Hearne and grew up in Navasota, Texas, two small towns about 20 miles from Texas A&M, where he earned an undergraduate degree in physics in 1971. He received his doctorate in physics from Rice University in Houston and taught computer science and electrical engineering at the University of Houston and Old Dominion University in Virginia.

More recently, he spent four years as the vice president and chief executive officer of Texas A&M's branch campus in Galveston.

Loftin said he first visited Columbia 40 years ago as a young researcher at Missouri's research nuclear reactor. He also worked closely with Deaton and Missouri athletic director Mike Alden when Texas A&M and Missouri left the Big 12 Conference to join the Southeastern Conference in 2012.
MU announces R. Bowen Loftin as new Chancellor

University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe announced today the appointment of R. Bowen Loftin as MU's next chancellor. Loftin previously served as president of Texas A&M from 2010 to last July.

In his first remarks at Chancellor, Loftin emphasized his longtime relationship with the school. He said he has known former MU Chancellor Haskell Monroe and recalled visiting MU's research reactor as a young professor in the 1970s. He emphasized MU's status as a land grant university and suggested that the MU system could increase collaboration between its four campuses. In his most substantive remark, Loftin suggested that MU might expand the hiring of professors in a "strategic" manner.

Credit George Varney / KBIA

The news was leaked the night before by the Texas college sports website TexAgs. The article notes that Loftin announced his retirement in July but said he would continue to teach as a professor at A&M. He took a $850,000 buyout to do so.
An alumnus of Texas A&M since 1970, Loftin has served as president of the school since 2010 (he was interim president in 2009). Prior to that appointment, he was vice president and CEO of Texas A&M University at Galveston where he also taught in "maritime systems engineering." Notably, he was president of the campus in 2008 when Hurricane Ike caused significant destruction in the Texas Gulf Coast. Loftin oversaw evacuation of the campus and relocated 150 miles inland to the main Texas A&M campus.

Loftin is noted for leading Texas A&M through a period of increased enrollment and construction. Like MU, Texas A&M also entered the SEC last year. Wolfe emphasized Loftin’s academic reputation (he has published over 100 papers) and reputation for having a strong connection with students.

Loftin is extremely active on Twitter and uses the handle @aggieprez.
Outgoing A&M president Loftin officially named chancellor of Missouri
By JORDAN OVERTURF jordan.overturf@theeagle.com

Officials with the University of Missouri announced R. Bowen Loftin’s appointment as chancellor of the school during a ceremony Thursday morning in Columbia, Mo.

The outgoing Texas A&M president made several comparisons between the Aggies and the Tigers during the announcement. Both are public land-grant universities. Both have competitive athletics programs in the Southeastern Conference. But Loftin said it was one of his core values that solidified his decision to take on the administrative position.

“Integrity is my lot in life ... and I know it’s a truly embedded core value here at UM,” Loftin said during his opening remarks to the university and the media.

Loftin did not say how the transition will affect his exit as A&M president. He did note, however, that the decision to step down at A&M was separate from his decision to become Missouri’s 22nd chancellor.

“I wasn’t even aware that they were looking for a chancellor” he said in a post-announcement press conference.

When Loftin announced his retirement in July, he said his goal was to get back to teaching. During Thursday’s press conference, he said that dream isn’t gone, it’s just been delayed.

“I still intend to get back to that,” he said.

Loftin said he was approached about two months ago by Missouri’s search committee. When faced with the opportunity to teach again or continue to impact the lives of students on a broader scale, Loftin said the choice became easy.

“I want to affect thousands of students,” he said. “I’ve always had the mind set that students come first.”

University of Missouri system president Tim Wolfe called Loftin “a dynamic leader that will step in and inspire.”

“He is absolutely the right fit,” Wolfe said during the press conference.
Loftin to Become Chancellor of University of Missouri

Outgoing Texas A&M University President R. Bowen Loftin has been officially named the new chancellor of the University of Missouri.

The announcement on his new position was published Thursday on the University of Missouri's website.

Loftin has served as president of A&M since 2009, first in an interim capacity and then officially starting in 2010. In July, he announced his intention to step down in January 2014. At the time, he signaled an intention to remain in College Station serving as a tenured faculty member and launching a new institute within the engineering department at the university.

"I will certainly miss being ‘aggieprez’ (my twitter handle)," he said in a statement at the time, "but I will still be part of this great university and will be serving on the ‘front lines’ of the academy, side-by-side with those I love the most — our students."

Clearly, more than just the Twitter handle will have to change. Loftin officially starts his new job in Missouri on Feb. 1.

And he's not walking away empty-handed. After he announced his departure, his final separation agreement with A&M included an $850,000 payout.

In Texas, presidents lead individual universities and chancellors head up an entire university system. In Missouri, the titles are switched. So, Loftin's next role is analogous to the post he held at A&M.

And like A&M, Loftin's new university recently joined the Southeastern Conference. In fact, Missouri's football team defeated the Aggies less than a week before the announcement of Loftin's move.

No official word on whether that swayed the president-turned-chancellor's decision.
The University of Missouri has confirmed former Texas A&M University President R. Bowen Loftin as its newest chancellor.

Loftin — known for his bowties and social media proficiency — will begin his new role on Feb. 1, 2014, succeeding Brady Deaton, who retired in mid-November.

"His impressive track record of leading Texas A&M to tremendous growth and advancement, and sterling credentials in research, teaching and public service, make him the perfect fit for MU's elite status as a public land-grant, AAU institution," MU President Tim Wolfe said in a statement.

At Texas A&M, Loftin helped the university score record gifts of $740 million in 2013 and leave the Big 12 Conference to join the Southeastern Conference. Texas A&M in fall 2013 had more than 56,000 students enrolled — its largest enrollment ever.

Loftin had served as president of Texas A&M since 2010 following an eight-month stint as interim president. He has a bachelor's degree in physics from Texas A&M and a master's and doctorate in physics from Rice University.
Next Mizzou chancellor is coming from Texas A&M

By Dave Matter dmatter@post-dispatch.com 314-340-8508

COLUMBIA, Mo. • R. Bowen Loftin, the campus leader credited with steering Texas A&M athletics out of the Big 12 and into the Southeastern Conference, will be introduced today as the next University of Missouri chancellor, a university source confirmed.

Loftin, 64, announced in July he was stepping down as president at Texas A&M to take a teaching position in the engineering school.

A news conference is scheduled for 11 a.m. at the Reynolds Alumni Center on the Mizzou campus.

TexAgs.com, a website that covers Texas A&M athletics, first reported Wednesday that Loftin was leaving the College Station campus for Missouri.

Loftin, known for his trademark bow tie, will succeed Brady Deaton, who retired last month after holding the position since 2004.

Loftin was named the 24th president of Texas A&M in February 2010 after serving as interim president beginning in June 2009. Before he went to the College Station campus, he spent four years as the vice president and chief executive officer of the university’s marine-oriented branch campus in Galveston. Loftin is a 1970 physics graduate of Texas A&M. He holds a master’s and a doctoral degree in physics, both from Rice University.

“We owe him an extreme debt of gratitude for his steadfast leadership and guidance, which has elevated Texas A&M into one of the best universities in this country.” Texas A&M system chancellor John Sharp said in July when Loftin announced he was stepping down. “He is absolutely at the top of his game, and we look forward to his continued service.”

Loftin was Texas A&M’s most outspoken campus leader when it departed from the Big 12 in the summer of 2011. Shortly after Texas A&M announced plans to join the SEC, Missouri followed the Aggies out of the Big 12 and into the SEC, with Deaton playing a major role in MU’s transition.
Loftin Chosen as MU Chancellor

By TheEagle939.com
Published: December 5, 2013

(Missourinet) Former Texas A & M president R. Bowen Loftin is the new Chancellor at the University of Missouri. Tim Wolfe, University of Missouri president, introduced him Thursday morning.

Loftin had been president of Texas A & M since February 12, 2010. Back in July, Loftin announced his retirement, but planned to stay on at A & M as a professor. According to the Texas A & M University website, prior to assuming leadership of Texas A&M at Galveston, Dr. Loftin served at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, as professor of electrical and computer engineering and professor of computer science.

He was Old Dominion’s director of simulation programs and had responsibility for the institution’s graduate programs in modeling and simulation. He also served as executive director of the Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center. Earlier in his career, he was professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science and director of the NASA Virtual Environments Research Institute at the University of Houston.

Loftin will replace Brady Deaton, who stepped down as MU Chancellor last month after nine years on the job.
Former Texas A&M President is New MU Chancellor

Posted: Dec 5, 2013 12:15 PM by Marie Mandelberg, KOMU 8 Digital Producer
Updated: Dec 5, 2013 12:30 PM

COLUMBIA - A new MU Chancellor has been announced. R. Bowen Loftin, outgoing Texas A&M president, will start on February 1, 2014.

Loftin served as Texas A&M's interim president in June 2009 and officially became President in February 2010.

Loftin announced his retirement in July, but said he would continue to teach as a professor at A&M. He took an $850,000 buyout after stepping down as president earlier this year.

Loftin received his Bachelor's Degree from Texas A&M and both his Master's and Doctorate Degrees from Rice University. Loftin was also a professor at Old Dominion University.
Ex-Mizzou football players file concussion suit against NCAA

ST. LOUIS • Two former Mizzou football players sued the NCAA this week, claiming it put players at risk by ignoring decades of warnings about the dangers of concussions and other traumatic head injuries.

The suit, by Anthony “Tony” VanZant and Sharron D. Washington, who both played for the University of Missouri from 1987-1991, seeks comprehensive medical monitoring that would provide early diagnosis and treatment of neurological injuries.

The filing Tuesday in U.S. District Court in St. Louis follows similar lawsuits around the country by former players; a 2011 class action case is in mediation.

The NCAA could not be reached for comment Thursday, nor could the former players or their lawyers.

The NCAA’s Sport Science Institute website denies a clear cause-and-effect relationship between concussions and subsequent neurological problems.

VanZant, the 1985 Parade Magazine national player of the year, hailed from Hazelwood Central High School and showed star potential until he blew out a knee in a Missouri Lions Club All-Star Game in Jefferson City before preseason camp.

He skipped a season, suffered depression, started drinking and never lived up to his promise, according to a Post-Dispatch profile.

The suit says that during his playing days, he suffered traumatic brain injuries in practices and games. He claims he now has headaches, dizziness, depression, impulse control problems and other ailments.

VanZant lives in Jefferson City and is the running backs coach for Lincoln University.

Washington, of Florissant, played cornerback and free safety for Mizzou, and was featured in ESPN’s “Hit of the Week” twice during the 1991 season, the suit says.

One hit in a game in 1991 against the University of Illinois left him dizzy for a week, the suit claims, and he couldn’t remember anything that happened after a hit during a 1990 game against Baylor University. Washington led the Tigers in tackles in 1991.

Washington now suffers headaches, depression, sleep problems and numbness and tingling sensations, the suit claims.
The suit also seeks class-action status to represent other NCAA football players who didn’t make it to the National Football League.

This summer, the NFL announced a tentative $765 million settlement after more than 4,500 former players sued, claiming the league failed to inform players of the dangers of head injuries and either allowed players to play too soon after a concussion or encouraged them to go back on the field.

This week’s suit lodges similar accusations against the National Collegiate Athletic Association, saying it was negligent in failing to minimize players’ injuries and educate them about the dangers of repeated impacts to the head.

The suit says that the NCAA knew for decades — or should have known — about the dangers of traumatic brain injuries, and should have known that one injury can leave players vulnerable to lesser impacts.

Repetitive, traumatic head injuries can bring on depression, early-onset dementia or Alzheimer’s disease, and other neurological ailments, the suit says.
Pinkel: 'I'm going to stay a Missouri Tiger'

Missouri head coach Gary Pinkel watches his defense play during the fourth quarter of an NCAA college football game against Toledo Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013, in Columbia, Mo. Missouri won the game 38-23. (AP Photo/L.G. Patterson)

ATLANTA • It’s unclear if the University of Washington has reached out to Missouri’s Gary Pinkel about its head-coaching vacancy, but Pinkel and his boss at Mizzou made it clear today: He’s not going anywhere.

First, in a national interview on ESPN Radio’s Mike & Mike Show, Pinkel responded to a question about the job at Washington, where Pinkel spent 12 years as an offensive assistant under former Huskies legend Don James. Earlier this week, Washington coach Steve Sarkisian left the Pac-12 school for the head-coaching job at Southern California. A few media outlets have listed Pinkel as a potential replacement.

"I coached there for 12 years, and Don James is my mentor," said Pinkel, whose No. 5 Tigers (11-1) play No. 3 Auburn (11-1) here Saturday for the SEC championship. "I'll be quite frank: I'm staying at the University of Missouri. I and with the administration's help, will continue to build a national program in a quest for a national championship. I'm a Missouri Tiger, and I'm going to stay a Missouri Tiger."

Later in the day, Missouri athletic director Mike Alden released a statement in response to media inquiries about Pinkel’s status. Pinkel is under contract at Mizzou through the 2017 season.
“We are excited for the opportunity to play in the SEC Championship Game, and so proud of Coach Pinkel, his staff and our student-athletes. All of us are focused on the game and Auburn this weekend. I know our fans and all of Tiger Nation are energized to be a part of this special event.

“At the same time, it’s also important to recognize the tremendous job Coach Pinkel has done throughout all of his efforts at Mizzou. We have the #1 APR rate in the SEC, and we have remarkable results academically and socially. Competitively, Coach Pinkel has won at a very high level with discipline, integrity, dignity and compassion. We have won 10 or more games four times in the past seven years and have won four divisional championships in that same period. Gary and I have spoken about our continued efforts going forward. I’m looking forward to sitting down with Gary after the season and focus on ways to build on these successes and recognize the significant contributions Gary and his staff have made to our program. We are so pleased with Gary’s commitment to Mizzou and I look forward to working with Gary for a long time.”

With last week’s 28-21 win over Texas A&M, Pinkel tied Don Faurot for the most head-coaching wins in program history and can have the record to himself with a win in Saturday’s SEC championship game at the Georgia Dome. Pinkel is 101-62 in 13 seasons at Missouri.

Pinkel was a finalist for the Washington head-coaching job in 1999 — when he was still the head coach at Toledo — but the job went to Rick Neuheisel. Washington approached him about interviewing for the job again in 2008 but Pinkel declined. After the 2010 season, he accepted an invitation to interview for the head-coaching job at Michigan but changed his mind before the interview at the national coaches convention in Dallas. Instead, Mizzou extended his contract two years through 2017 and gave his coaches significant raises. Pinkel’s base salary is $2.35 million. He can make up to more than an additional half-million dollars in annual bonuses. So far this season, he’s hit on four incentives that will pay him $300,000 in bonus pay.

Alden’s statement suggested Pinkel’s staff could see some raises after the season. Coordinators Dave Steckel (defense) and Josh Henson (offense) received hefty raises heading into the current season, with Steckel going from $354,750 to $550,000 and Henson going from $221,500 to $500,000.
Gary Pinkel on Washington job: ‘I’m a Missouri Tiger and I’m going to stay a Missouri Tiger’

December 6
The Kansas City Star

Missouri coach Gary Pinkel on Thursday addressed the open position at Washington, where he was an assistant coach for 12 years under his mentor, the late Don James.

“I’ll be quite frank,” Pinkel said on ESPN’s “Mike & Mike,” “I’m staying at the University of Missouri.”

“I, with the administration’s help, can continue to build a national program and (can continue) the quest for national championships.

“I’m a Missouri Tiger and I’m going to stay a Missouri Tiger.”

Missouri athletic director Mike Alden said in a statement Thursday that he would meet with Pinkel after the season to “focus on ways to build on” the success of the football program, which is in Saturday’s SEC championship game, and “recognize the significant contributions Gary and his staff have made to our program.”

In April 2011, Pinkel received a contract extension through 2017 and more money for his assistant coaches.

Alden told The Star on Monday that Pinkel has “done such amazing things at Missouri” and noted the “millions of dollars” of ongoing and upcoming construction toward “building something special.”

“I’m looking forward to working with him for a long time,” Alden said.

Pinkel interviewed for the Washington head coaching job in 1999, before he became MU’s coach, but was not believed to have interviewed when the Huskies’ job became
open again in 2008. Pinkel is tied with Don Faurot for most career coaching victories at MU with 101.

As of Monday night, Alden told The Star that MU had not heard from Washington. Asked if he was concerned, Alden said that often having a name of a coach out there is “just a recognition of success.”
Pinkel: 'I'm going to stay a Missouri Tiger'

By David Morrison

If there was any trepidation among the Missouri faithful that Coach Gary Pinkel was toying with the idea of following in mentor Don James' footsteps at Washington, Pinkel erased it Thursday morning.

Pinkel, on an appearance on the "Mike and Mike" show on ESPN Radio, confirmed his commitment to the team that he's coached since 2001.

"I'll be quite frank: I'm staying at the University of Missouri," Pinkel said, according to ESPN.com. "I, with the administration's help, will continue to build a national program in a quest for a national championship.

"I'm a Missouri Tiger, and I'm going to stay a Missouri Tiger."

Pinkel, one of three finalists for the Maxwell Football Club's Collegiate Coach of the Year award, has helped lead the Tigers' unexpected turnaround this season, from a team that went 5-7 and missed a bowl for the first time since 2004 last year to an 11-1 record, an SEC East title, a No. 5 national ranking and a conference title shot against No. 3 Auburn on Saturday.

With the Tigers' regular season ending win over Texas A&M, Pinkel tied Don Faurot as Missouri's all-time winningest coach. He has a 101-62 record in 13 years with the Tigers and is 174-99-3 in 23 years as a head coach at Missouri and Toledo.

"Gary and I have spoken about our continued efforts going forward. I’m looking forward to sitting down with Gary after the season and focus on ways to build on these successes and recognize the significant contributions Gary and his staff have made to our program," Missouri Athletics Director Mike Alden said in a statement. "We are so pleased with Gary’s commitment to Mizzou and I look forward to working with Gary for a long time."

Huskies Coach Steve Sarkisian left Washington to take the job at USC on Monday, leading to some speculation that the 61-year-old Pinkel might be on the Huskies' radar as a replacement, having served as an assistant to James at Washington from 1979 to 1990.

Pinkel signed an extension with Missouri in April 2011 that extended him through the 2017 season.
He makes a base salary of $2.35 million a year and has been piling up some lucrative bonuses as Missouri has made its run this season.

His contract stipulates a bonus of $50,000 for winning the SEC East, $75,000 for making a non-BCS bowl game, $25,000 for winning 11 games and $150,000 for Missouri drawing an average home attendance of more than 60,000. The Tigers averaged an announced crowd of 63,505 this season.

Pinkel also has some incentives he could still achieve. He can up his SEC bonus to $75,000 if he wins the title Saturday and up his bowl bonus to $100,000 for a BCS bowl game appearance, $150,000 for an appearance in the BCS National Championship Game or $250,000 for winning a national championship.

Additionally, Pinkel can earn $25,000 for winning SEC coach of the year from the conference's coaches or the Associated Press, $50,000 for winning national coach of the year by the American Football Coaches Association or the AP, and $50,000 (top 25) or $75,000 (top 10) if the Tigers achieve a high final ranking in the BCS.
Mizzou football finally makes its way to CBS

The Southeastern Conference title game matchup is a big surprise, as teams that had a combined 2-14 league record last year vie for this season’s crown.

And Missouri is the biggest surprise for CBS, which will televise the game Saturday — it had a grand total of zero MU games on its package of SEC regular-season games it showed this year.

It will be the first time since CBS began televising the league 13 seasons ago that a team it hadn’t carried all fall will be in its showcase telecast.

CBS generally shows one game nationally on Saturdays, and has the first choice among the outlets that carry SEC contests. And CBS Sports chairman Sean McManus said “it’s not an exact science,” in making that selection.

“We just try to pick the game that we think maximizes viewer interest and television ratings,” he said on a conference call with reporters this week. “... I wish we had had Missouri on our air. They’re tough calls.”

Georgia and Louisiana State had the most appearances — five. Auburn was on three times.

“I think generally speaking we have done a really good job in this, but trying to predict how competitive a game is going to be or how meaningful that game may end up being at the end of the season is tough to do,” McManus said. “I think our team does a really good job trying to pick the best game each week.

The fact CBS’s announcers haven’t seen the Tigers play in person have them scrambling a bit.

“I’m ankle deep in Missouri notes right now,” play-by-play broadcaster Verne Lundquist said. “I think it’s fair to say it impacts it. I’m sorry the schedules didn’t work out that provided us with an opportunity to televise a Missouri game.

“I think we owe the Tigers a lot of respect for what they’ve accomplished today, and it’s a challenge for us to tell their story in equal amounts of information to that of the Auburn story.”

Analyst Gary Danielson made it a point to go to Columbia this week.

“I’ll be very well prepared but even so, I think the coach needs to see me in person,” Danielson said. “We are going to critique them and say stuff. I think I always owe it to the coach ... (to) watch practice and make sure that he knows that when I say something he doesn’t agree with — and it happens a lot — he
knows at least that I went out there, saw them and took the time. ... He'll know at least that I didn't mail it in."

The game could be a windfall for KMOV (Channel 4), the local CBS affiliate that will televise the game.

Mizzou’s victory last weekend over Texas A&M was televised by ESPN and was seen in 15.9 percent of homes in the St. Louis market with a television, according to The Nielsen Co. Though not near the 26 rating the Tigers’ drew in 2007 when they beat Kansas to reach the Big 12 title game, it nonetheless was MU’s best rating in St. Louis since drawing a 17.2 figure for a 36-27 victory in 2010 over Oklahoma, which was ranked No. 1 in the BCS standings.

So a big number is expected Saturday, when MU mania takes over KMOV. Before football coverage begins, it has the Missouri-UCLA basketball game in Columbia at 11:30 a.m. Former MU broadcaster Kevin Harlan does the play-by-play. Greg Anthony is the analyst.

After basketball coverage, CBS airs its SEC title game preview show from the site of the game, the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. Tim Brando is the host of that program, which is set to begin at 2 p.m., and works with commentators Spencer Tillman and Brian Jones.

The game is set for 3 p.m.