Curators set to pick SUNY provost as new Mizzou chancellor

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 1 hr ago

ST. LOUIS • Two years after the campus' top leader resigned, the University of Missouri-Columbia is getting a new chancellor.

Multiple sources confirmed that Alexander Cartwright, the provost and executive vice chancellor at the State University of New York has been hired as Mizzou's next chancellor.

University of Missouri System spokesman John Fougere declined to confirm Cartwright's hiring.

"While we expect an announcement soon, we are maintaining our policy of confidentiality of any possible candidates," he said in an email Wednesday.

Cartwright has been at SUNY since 2014 and has been an electrical engineering professor on the University of Buffalo campus since 1995.

SUNY is a 64-campus system, and Cartwright is responsible for overseeing policies over academics, diversity and inclusion issues, enrollment management, student success, information technology and research. All of those issues are critical to Mizzou.

The University of Buffalo, the SUNY campus where Cartwright holds his professor appointment, is a member of the Association of American Universities, a research organization that only Mizzou and Washington University are members of in Missouri. Stony Brook University, another SUNY school, is also in the AAU.

In November, Cartwright was one of three finalists for the chancellor position at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
In his role as provost, Cartwright has spoken on behalf of the university system's academic and research issues in front of the New York Legislature, Congress and federal agencies.

A native of the Bahamas, he earned his bachelor's and doctorate degree from the University of Iowa. Cartwright currently lives in Albany with his wife and two children.

The Board of Curators are expected to finalize his hiring Tuesday afternoon. Cartwright was picked following a national search, and is expected to be formally introduced to the Mizzou community Wednesday afternoon on campus.

**Contentious role**

Hiring Cartwright is a big step for University of Missouri System president Mun Choi in addressing the future of Mizzou.

Choi was **hired by the curators in October** to replace Timothy M. Wolfe, who resigned in November 2015. Hours later, Mizzou chancellor **R. Bowen Loftin stepped down as well**.

Cartwright will inherit the responsibility for handling Mizzou's ongoing public perception problem.

The school and its leaders are plagued with ongoing criticism 18 months after a series of protests centered largely around issues of race rocked the Columbia campus at the University of Missouri System. Those issues were compounded with a student-led hunger strike, a boycott from the football team, issues around benefits for graduate students and a series of administrative departures following the resignation of both Wolfe and Loftin.

While the protests were a contributing factor to Loftin's departure in particular, he also had a strained relationship with university leaders, including Wolfe. Days before he stepped down one academic department took a vote of no confidence in him. Nine out of 13 campus deans also issued a letter calling for his dismissal.

Many of these issues have drawn ire from elected leaders as well as the public. The university system and all of public higher education has taken some hits in public funding in recent years.
Leaders point to the flagship in particular as an example of a bloated structure, including one of the university curators, David Steelman. He has said he thinks the university has fat to cut.

Mizzou in particular is also up against significant enrollment concerns. Preliminary numbers show the freshman class could be around 4,000 students, down from 6,000 in the fall of 2015.

That translates into about $16.6 million less in revenue, but leaders hope to make up about $7 million of that through a 2.1 percent increase in tuition. The curators vote on that increase Tuesday.

This all feeds into the perception problem that provost and interim chancellor Garnett Stokes said the flagship campus has to address as soon as possible.

During a recent budget meeting where Stokes announced more than 300 positions are set to be cut through attrition, not renewing contracts and layoffs, she said a reorganization effort of sorts is imminent. That includes a review of the administrative structure, facilities and other programs. She also called for the creation of a committee to look at how Mizzou can be more "forward looking."

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

MAY 23, 2017 9:39 AM

New chancellor reportedly chosen for University of Missouri-Columbia campus

BY SCOTT CANON
scanon@kcstar.com

The provost and executive vice chancellor at the State University of New York has been picked as the next chancellor for the University of Missouri-Columbia, according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The newspaper said University of Missouri System spokesman John Fougere declined to confirm that Alexander Cartwright has been hired for the job of taking over a campus still reeling from racial protests.
in 2015 that triggered the ousting of the last head of the Columbia campus and the previous MU system president.

“While we expect an announcement soon, we are maintaining our policy of confidentiality of any possible candidates,” the spokesman said in an email to the Post-Dispatch.

SUNY’s website says that Cartwright has been in his current role since 2014, where he has oversight responsibilities for the 64-campus system, driving “academic policy and oversee(ing) a broad portfolio including: access and inclusion; academic program planning and assessment; enrollment management; student success; global affairs; information technology; and, SUNY’s broad research enterprise.”

Notably, given the racial acrimony at Columbia that nearly canceled a Tiger football game against Brigham Young University in 2015, the SUNY site said he introduced “a sweeping diversity, equity and inclusion policy” at that state university.

Cartwright is a native of the Bahamas. He holds a doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Iowa.

He taught at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York, beginning in 1995. He later became vice president for research and economic development and acting executive director of the New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences.

New York higher education official to be next University of Missouri chancellor

By Rudi Keller

The University of Missouri Board of Curators on Tuesday approved a contract for Alexander Cartwright, provost and executive vice president of the State University of New York, to be chancellor of the Columbia campus, but won’t officially disclose the decision until Wednesday.
UM System President Mun Choi is scheduled to present the chancellor-designee at 1 p.m. at the Reynolds Alumni Center. After the curators approved the contract in closed session, system spokesman John Fougere said he was not authorized to reveal the selection.

Candidates for the job were screened by a 22-member search committee led by UMKC Chancellor Leo Morton and MU College of Engineering Dean Elizabeth Loboa. The committee operated in secret.

During the course of the search, interim Chancellor Hank Foley, who had not hidden his interest in having the job on a permanent basis, accepted the job of president of the New York Institute of Technology. Since May 3, Provost Garnett Stokes has served as interim chancellor.

“We have had great candidates for this position,” Fougere said after the curators’ closed meeting. “What it shows is that people across this nation think very highly of the University of Missouri-Columbia and you will see more of that tomorrow when you meet the actual chancellor.”

Cartwright’s appointment was confirmed by multiple sources on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to talk about the selection. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch first reported the selection Tuesday morning.

Cartwright has been provost at SUNY, a 64-campus system that includes community colleges and research and doctoral degree-granting institutions, since September 2014. In November, he was one of three finalists for the post of chancellor at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Cartwright, a native of the Bahamas, holds a doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Iowa, according to a biography on the SUNY website. He joined the faculty of the University at Buffalo, a SUNY campus, in 1995. At Buffalo, he chaired the electrical engineering and biomedical engineering departments, was vice provost for strategic initiatives and served as vice president for research and economic development and acting executive director of the New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences.

He received a chancellor’s award for excellence in teaching in 2002 and the Office of Naval Research Young Investigator award, among other recognition. Cartwright’s research specialty is optical sensors and he remains active in research and teaching, managing the Laboratory for Applied Spectroscopic Evaluation and overseeing doctoral students and one post-doc student, the biography states.

Cartwright steps into the top job at a campus beset by sharp declines in enrollment, state budget cuts and an ongoing reorganization effort that could include the elimination of degree programs. The campus plans to cut spending by $60 million and eliminate 328 jobs, including layoffs of 84 employees.

The chancellor’s position at MU has been vacant since November 2015, when R. Bowen Loftin stepped down. Campus protests over race issues brought intense public attention to MU, forcing the resignation of UM System President Tim Wolfe. Loftin was pushed out because of continuing clashes with Wolfe, faculty and administrators that undermined confidence in him.

The search for a new chancellor began shortly after the curators selected Choi as permanent president of the university.
Reports say Alexander Cartwright to be named next MU chancellor

COLUMBIA — A system leader at the State University of New York is expected to be named as the next chancellor at MU, according to reports from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

According to the report, Alexander Cartwright, a provost and executive vice chancellor at SUNY, is expected to be named the next chancellor.

Provost Garnett Stokes was named interim chancellor earlier this month. Hank Foley, who had served in the role since November 2015, announced in March he was leaving to become president of the New York Institute of Technology.

The UM System Board of Curators met by teleconference Tuesday afternoon, part of the time in closed session. UM System President Mun Choi is scheduled to announce the selection of a new MU chancellor at 1 p.m. Wednesday in the Great Room of the Reynolds Alumni Center, according to a UM System release.

Cartwright has been provost of the 64-campus State University of New York system since September 2014, according to his profile on SUNY’s website. At SUNY, he built the university's agenda around "the overarching areas of: student success and completion; diversity, equity and inclusion; and, through research growth in emerging areas, increasing SUNY’s impact on state and global challenges," the profile says.
A glimpse into his philosophy

Cartwright did not respond to calls and emails on Tuesday. However, in remarks he made on a 2016 panel, "Open Learning: Shaping the Future," which was posted on YouTube, he identified three cornerstones of SUNY that he wanted to pervade the entire system: diversity, equity and inclusion.

“How do you at a system level think about encouraging behaviors, and how do you engage the faculty across that entire group and staff and students? And so what we’ve really been thinking about is three cornerstones of what is SUNY, and that is we are interested in is diversity, equity and inclusion,” he said.

Cartwright also expressed his teaching philosophy.

“How do you throw away the things that you think are wrong? And that is to me the essence of learning,” he said. “A number of people believe our job is to transmit the content. But I always thought if I could go into a classroom and teach without actually worrying about transmitting content, I’d be much more effective. I would work with the students and talk with them about how to do things.”

He said his experiences in college shaped his view.

“Most lectures that I attended, I was in the back row,” he said, “and I knew everything about the ceiling.”

But, Cartwright said, he engaged with classes that taught him how to problem-solve.

“A lot of stuff we can look up. We can see it,” he said. “It’s this idea of going beyond content and how do we use the content that’s available? That makes people uncomfortable because much of our premise in education has been around textbooks as the ultimate academic activity.”

Cartwright’s academic background is in electrical engineering and biomedical engineering. While he pursued an administrative career, he remained interested in research, said Mark Swihart, a professor in the Chemical and Biological Engineering Department at SUNY-Buffalo.

Cartwright maintained an active lab in Buffalo and advised graduate students, even though he worked out of SUNY’s administrative offices in Albany, said Swihart, who has known Cartwright since the 1990s.
“He’s a really driven guy,” Swihart said, adding that Cartwright might have gravitated toward administration because it was a chance to contribute to the university as a whole rather than in one area of research.

“He is just super smart, a combination of book smart and people smart,” Swihart said.

That combination allowed Cartwright to manage the strong personalities most universities attract, Swihart said.

“Alex is very deft as managing that in a productive, non-confrontational way,” he said.

Cartwright was born in the Bahamas, and his wife is from Iowa, where Cartwright earned a doctorate at the University of Iowa. The couple are “salt of the earth, Midwestern people,” Swihart said.

Several years ago, Cartwright and Albert Titus, a biomedical engineering professor, helped create the Department of Biomedical Engineering at SUNY-Buffalo. Cartwright was named its chair, Titus said, and the two worked together to build it from the ground up.

Titus, who has known Cartwright since the late 1990s, said Cartwright fully embraces his work.

"Every kind of position he's moved into, he's grabbed it and said, 'let's go,'" Titus said.

He's a "forward-looking" researcher and administrator, Titus said. With research, that means he reaches across disciplines to solve interesting problems; with policy, he tries to identify problems and address them, Titus said.

Also, Cartwright was well-liked and well-respected on the Buffalo campus, Titus said.

"It's Missouri's gain and our loss," Titus said. "The people who know him will miss him."

Diversity and inclusion credentials

The SUNY website credits Cartwright with introducing "a sweeping diversity, equity and inclusion policy, which applies to all campuses and SUNY’s System Administration."
Cartwright co-chairs the SUNY Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, which examines and proposes strategies on undergraduate recruitment and retention, faculty and staff diversity and "development and enhancement of a welcoming campus environment for all."

The task force proposed and passed policies in 2015 to ensure all 64 SUNY campuses hired a chief diversity officer by August 2017.

SUNY released a guide for increasing diversity and inclusion in March 2016. The guide set goals to “ensure that the campus commitment to diversity is clear, transparent, and evident at the highest levels of and across the institution” and “engage diverse alumni in current activities, recruitment and capital campaigns to help fund non-traditional students from underrepresented student populations.”

In 2014, one year before the policy was adopted, minority enrollment at SUNY was 27.5 percent. As of July 2016, minority enrollment was reported at 35.6 percent. In comparison, New York’s minority population is reported at 41.7 percent, according to 2010 U.S. Census data.

Cartwright was acting president of the Research Foundation for SUNY from January 2015 to January 2016, a role in which he helped manage more than $1 billion in sponsored research activity, according to his profile.

Cartwright was a finalist for chancellor at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in November, according to a Nov. 7 news release on the school's website.

A spokeswoman for the SUNY system declined to comment Tuesday morning. Campus leaders and others at MU didn't return calls Tuesday or declined to comment.

Budget, enrollment challenges

Cartwright joins MU at a time of fiscal uncertainty. On Friday, Stokes submitted a fiscal 2018 budget proposal to Choi that would cut about $60 million and eliminate 328 jobs. Choi is expected to release final budget decisions for all four system campuses on June 2.
The cuts come as both state funding and enrollment are in decline. This month, the Missouri General Assembly voted to cut UM System funding by 6.5 percent. In Columbia, MU is expecting a 15 percent drop in freshman enrollment after 4,009 students paid fall enrollment deposits, which is an early measure of enrollment. Last fall's official enrollment was 4,772 first-time college students. The year before that, it was 6,191.

The enrollment decline can be traced in part to a public perception problem that stems from race-related protests in the fall of 2015, Vice Provost for Enrollment Pelema Morrice said at an MU budget forum this month.

That fall was the last time MU had a permanent chancellor. R. Bowen Loftin resigned on Nov. 9, 2015, just 20 months into his tenure, along with then-UM President Tim Wolfe, kicking off more than a year of interim leadership at MU and the UM System.

Brady Deaton was the last chancellor to hold the position for at least two years, serving from 2004 until his retirement in November 2013.

A survey of MU faculty conducted in February 2016 also revealed concerns. A little more than half of MU faculty would choose to work at the university again if given the chance, according to data from the 2015-2016 Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education survey. Faculty compensation and the representation of women and minority groups in campus decisions were issues of contention, the survey showed.
MU Chancellor pick confirmed, source says


By Marie Bowman

COLUMBIA, Mo. - **ABC 17 News has confirmed with a source on Tuesday that Alex Cartwright will be the MU new chancellor. The pick comes after Former Chancellor Loftin left his position at the end of 2015.**

Dr. Cartwright is the current Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor of the State University of New York (SUNY). He has filled that position since September of 2014.

Dr. Cartwright has a Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Iowa. According to the SUNY website, Dr. Cartwright is a Bahamas native and has used his background to advocate for the importance of inclusion at SUNY.

ABC 17 reached out to the UM System spokesperson, who issued the following statement: "While we do expect an announcement of a new MU Chancellor soon, we are maintaining our policy of the confidentiality of any potential candidates at this time."

President Choi will be making the official announcement on Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. ABC 17 News will be live streaming the announcement.
Alexander Cartwright poised to be next Mizzou chancellor

By Steve Lambson

Watch the story: http://mms.tveys.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=1c377727-aef5-4705-b72d-6cac37a0a690

COLUMBIA - Alexander Cartwright, a provost at State University of New York, will be named the next chancellor at Mizzou, a source confirmed to KOMU 8 News on Tuesday.

The University of Missouri Board of Curators has to approve Cartwright, a vote which could happen at its teleconference Tuesday afternoon.

Mizzou Provost Garnett Stokes has been serving as interim chancellor; she took over for Hank Foley, who had been in the position since the resignation of R. Bowen Loftin in November 2015.

Dr. Cartwright has been serving as provost and executive vice chancellor at SUNY since September 2014. His roles included driving academic policy, academic program planning, enrollment management, and SUNY's research enterprises.
Alexander Cartwright likely candidate for permanent chancellor position

By Zia Kelly

Less than one month after the announcement of Garnett Stokes as MU’s interim chancellor, a permanent selection will be announced by the UM System Board of Curators Wednesday at 1 p.m.

According to reporting from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, State University of New York Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Alexander Cartwright will likely be announced to fill the chancellor position permanently — a year and a half after the resignation of former Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin following the protests of November 2015.

UM System spokesman John Fougere declined to confirm or deny the report.

“While we expect an announcement of a new MU Chancellor soon, we are maintaining our policy of confidentiality of any possible candidates at this time,” Fougere said in an email.

According to a news release from UM System President Mun Choi, the UM System will officially announce the new chancellor Wednesday afternoon at Reynolds Alumni Center on MU’s campus.

Cartwright will be the first person to serve in the chancellor position permanently since Loftin’s resignation at the end of 2015, which came after a series of controversies including protests held by activist groups on campus.

Former interim Chancellor Hank Foley served in the position from Jan. 1, 2016 to May 2 of this year when he left MU to serve as the president of the New York Institute of Technology, a position he will officially begin June 1. According to a statement he released last November, he initially expressed interest in filling the position permanently.

On May 3, Stokes, who also serves as executive vice chancellor for academic affairs, took over the interim chancellor position.

Cartwright has served in his positions at SUNY since 2014, according to the university’s website. During his time at SUNY, a 64-campus system, he also served as acting president of the research foundation for SUNY, where he oversaw more than $1 billion in research activity annually.
He also established the position of vice chancellor for research and economic development at the university. Which, according to SUNY’s website, supports research efforts of faculty and aims to establish and develop business and industry partnerships — a goal that the UM System Board of Curators spoke about extensively during their April meeting.

Before moving into an administrative role, Cartwright worked as an engineering faculty member at SUNY’s University at Buffalo. He received his doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Iowa.

In November, Cartwright was one of three finalists for the chancellor position at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Cartwright’s appointment has yet to be confirmed by the UM System or MU.

UM System to hire SUNY provost as next Mizzou chancellor

The University of Missouri System is set to hire the provost and executive vice chancellor at the State University of New York to run its flagship campus in Columbia, two years after the previous chancellor resigned amid protests over racial concerns on campus.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch cited multiple sources it didn't identify, reporting that Alexander Cartwright will be the next chancellor of the Columbia campus.

The Board of Curators for the four-campus University of Missouri system is expected to finalize Cartwright's hiring Tuesday and he is expected to be formally introduced on campus Wednesday.

Similar stories ran statewide, including the following broadcasts:
KSPR ABC- Springfield, MO
KTRS AM- St. Louis, MO
KSDK NBC- St. Louis, MO
University of Missouri curators approve 2.1 percent tuition increase

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 15 hrs ago

ST. LOUIS • The University of Missouri Board of Curators voted to increase in-state tuition to the maximum amount allowed by a state cap.

The action was in line with what almost every other public university governing board in Missouri has agreed to do during the last few months as schools grapple with another dip in state funds.

In-state tuition will increase by 2.1 percent this fall at all four University of Missouri campuses.

Out-of-state tuition varies by campus, but will rise by 2.1 percent at the Columbia campus, 3 percent at the Missouri University of Science and Technology and 5 percent at both the St. Louis and Kansas City campuses.

The curators also approved a hike in cost for graduate and professional programs, which vary by campus.

Fee increases were approved as well.

Supplemental fees in particular are something some curators, students and parents have taken issue with. The fees are tacked on to tuition and vary by program. They’re used as an attempt to elevate the cost of programs that are more expensive to teach.

Critics say the added fees often catch families by surprise.

Several curators challenged university system administrators to restructure the way the four campuses handle these fees.
Ryan Rapp, interim chief financial officer for the University of Missouri System, said he expected to have a differential tuition proposal for the curators by the October board meeting that would simplify tuition and fees.

Differential tuition sets the price tag of a student’s tuition based on the field of study. For example, an engineering student, who is more expensive to educate, would pay more than an English major.

**COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE**

**UM curators increase tuition by 2.1 percent**

By Rudi Keller

The University of Missouri will increase tuition for resident undergraduate students by 2.1 percent in the fall, but it might be the last time the Board of Curators votes on an across-the-board increase.

The board met Tuesday afternoon in a teleconference to set tuition for the fall and approve the contract for a new chancellor. At the urging of Curator David Steelman of Rolla, they also briefly discussed plans for changing how tuition is set.

At their September meeting, curators will see a plan for differential tuition, where rates are set based on the cost of a program and the job market graduates, said Ryan Rapp, interim vice president for finance. The plan, being developed now, also will consider whether there should be a cap on costs for students taking more than a fixed number of credit hours.

“We have to think about how we price at the program level,” Rapp said. “That will be crucial as we go forward.”

Along with increasing tuition for resident undergraduates on all four campuses by 2.1 percent, the board approved a variety of increases for other classes of students. On the MU campus, the only tuition increases above that rate will be in the School of Medicine, where tuition will increase 6 percent, and non-resident students of the College of Veterinary Medicine, who will pay a new surcharge of $2,500 per semester.
The increase will only cover about 40 percent of the anticipated revenue losses caused by lower enrollment and fewer out-of-state and international students attending the UM campuses. Overall, the tuition increases will raise about $14.1 million, while losses from enrollment declines and changes in student mix are put at $26.7 million.

The tuition increase is expected to bring in $6 million in new revenue for the Columbia campus to offset a revenue loss of $15.9 million caused by lower enrollment.

Throughout the UM System, campus leaders are expecting to cut 8 to 12 percent of their current budgets to eliminate deficits and provide funds for program enhancements. At MU, the plan proposed Friday would eliminate 328 jobs, including 181 currently filled, as the campus tries to cut expenses by $60 million.

The increase for undergraduates complies with state law limiting tuition increases to the rate of inflation unless a college is granted a waiver by the Department of Higher Education.

It is uncertain whether UM could adopt a differential tuition plan under current state law without a waiver, system spokesman John Fougere said. While some programs could see substantial increases, others could remain flat with an average increase that stays within the law.

The University of Missouri Review Commission, established last year to examine UM rules and policies, recommended repealing the law setting a cap on tuition. Lawmakers did not act on that recommendation in the session that ended May 12.

Differential tuition is just one idea for finding revenue, Fougere said.

“What it gets back to is that there are just a number of options that are on the table right now and we have to look at all those options because there is just no other choice,” he said.

The budget cuts aren’t just an attempt to balance the budget, he said. President Mun Choi is also looking at which programs to promote and which to eliminate from UM course offerings.

“We are looking at a way to invest in programs that are achieving excellence and some that aren’t in that category are some that the university can’t afford to be investing in anymore,” Fougere said.
UM Curators vote to increase tuition 2.1 percent, raise supplemental fees

ANDREW KESSEL, 12 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — **Students returning to MU in the fall will have to pay more money.**

The UM System Board of Curators voted unanimously Tuesday to approve a 2.1 percent hike in tuition and required fees. Supplemental fees will also increase.

For Missouri undergraduate students taking 15 credit hours each semester, that’s about an **extra $200 a year**, increasing the total cost to $9,645. Out-of-state undergraduates will have to pay an additional $500 per year. In fiscal year 2018, the increases are expected to generate **about $7.3 million** for MU, according to documents presented at a budget forum last week, and **$14.4 million across the system**, according to an April email from UM spokesman John Fougere.

That doesn’t include supplemental fee increases, which are not bound by the same regulation that prevents public college and universities for increasing tuition and required fees by more than the Consumer Price Index, which was 2.1 percent this year. Schools can ask for a waiver to increase tuition beyond the CPI, but UM did not opt to do so.

Supplemental fees include things like course fees, which vary by college or program. The Trulaske College of Business, for instance, will see a course fee increase of 9 percent for undergraduates, bringing it up to $108.40 per credit hour. The Sinclair School of Nursing, among others, is facing a 3 percent course fee increase.

Because the law limits tuition increases, the system uses supplemental fees as another way to generate revenue to combat the current fiscal turmoil, Fougere said after the meeting.
“We have to look at all options right now to address this budget situation,” Fougere said. “What they did today is they just used another weapon in their arsenal.”

In total, the supplemental fee increases are expected to generate $2.2 million for MU and $8.9 million for the UM System as a whole in the upcoming fiscal year.

The possibilities of differential and capped tuition were also briefly discussed. Differential tuition would vary tuition rates by program, so that students in high-cost, high-earning and high-demand programs would pay higher rates than those in other programs. Capped tuition would fix the tuition rate at a set amount regardless of the number of credit hours, Fougere said.

Neither option was adopted or voted on, but curators at the meeting said they would continue to evaluate those possibilities in the coming semesters.

The tuition and fee increases are part of an effort to mitigate declining state funding and enrollment revenue on top of increasing expenditures. Even after accounting for the tuition increases, MU’s fiscal year 2018 budget proposal still needed to cut about $60 million.

UM leaders vote to increase tuition system-wide


By James Packard
COLUMBIA - The University of Missouri System Board of Curators voted Tuesday afternoon to increase tuition at all four UM system campuses.

The increase could help the university alleviate some of its financial woes. Leaders increased tuition as much as state regulations will allow, voting for a 2.1 percent hike for all students at MU, and larger increases for graduate students and non-resident undergraduates at other campuses.

The largest hike, 6 percent, goes to non-resident graduate students at Missouri S&T in Rolla.

For resident undergraduate students at MU in Columbia, the changes mean shelling out about $200 more in tuition and fees in the next school year.

University leadership hopes to bring in about $8.9 million in additional revenue from the tuition hikes, according to system spokesperson John Fougere.

"That's not gonna get the job done," he said. "Obviously, we're going to have to be more efficient. We're going through a budget process right now where every one of our campuses has been submitting detailed budget plans to find, uh, the efficiencies, the savings we need to go forward."

All resident undergraduates in the UM system will see the same 2.1 percent increase as all MU students. Tuition increases for other students are based on resident status and campus:

- At the University of Missouri in Kansas City, nonresident undergrads, resident grad students and non-resident grad students will all see a 5 percent tuition increase
- At Missouri S&T in Rolla, nonresident undergrads and resident grad students will see a 5 percent increase, while nonresident graduate students will see a 6 percent increase
- At the University of Missouri St. Louis, nonresident undergrads will see a 4 percent increase. All grad students will see a 5 percent increase

The tuition increases come just as the University of Missouri system is set to announce a new MU chancellor Wednesday.

Alexander Cartwright will become the new leader of MU. He'll step into a role plagued by questions and controversy since protests erupted at MU in late 2015 over then-MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin's handling of racist incidents.

Cartwright's announcement as MU chancellor-designate is expected Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.
University of Missouri Tuition to Increase Next Fiscal Year

By Nathan Lawrence

Tuition at the University of Missouri is going up this fall.

In its monthly meeting today, the UM System Board of Curators voted to raise tuition and fees on all four system campuses. These changes will take effect at the beginning of the 2018 fiscal year, which starts July 1.

Undergraduate tuition on all four campuses will be going up by about 2 percent. Nonresident graduate students at the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla will feel the greatest increase. Their tuition will go up 6 percent.

These hikes come in the midst of 8 to 12 percent financial cuts across the UM system due to state funding changes and decreasing enrollment on its flagship Columbia campus.

UM System Board of Curators Vote to Raise Tuition

Watch the story: http://mms.tveys.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=21d63023-e284-4b3a-8284-5c03bbb63bae
3.3 million-year-old fossil shows age of our spines

Posted by Jeff Sossamon-U. Missouri May 23rd, 2017

Generated from News Bureau press release: 3.3 Million-Year-Old Fossil Reveals the Antiquity of the Human Spine

The 3.3 million-year-old fossilized remains of an early human child—named Selam by researchers—reveal the structure of the human spine is much older than once believed.

The almost perfect fossil skeleton of a 2 1/2 year-old toddler was discovered at Dikika, Ethiopia. Selam, which means “peace” in the Ethiopian Amharic language, was an early human relative from the species Australopithecus afarensis—the same species as the famous Lucy skeleton.

The findings, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science, indicate that Selam possesses the most complete spinal column of any early fossil human relative, and her vertebral bones, neck, and rib cage are mainly intact.

‘First glimpse’

Many features of the human spinal column and rib cage are shared among primates. The human spine reflects the distinctive mode of walking upright on two feet. Among the distinctive features is that humans have fewer rib-bearing vertebrae, bones of the back, than those of our closest relatives, and more vertebrae in the lower back allowing motions for walking effectively.

When and how this pattern evolved has been unknown because complete sets of vertebrae are rarely preserved in the fossil record.

“For many years we have known of fragmentary remains of early fossil species that suggest that the shift from rib-bearing, or thoracic, vertebrae to lumbar, or lower back, vertebrae was positioned higher in the spinal column than in living humans, but we have not been able to determine how many vertebrae our early ancestors had,” says Carol Ward, a professor of pathology and anatomical sciences at the University of Missouri’s School of Medicine, and lead author of the study.

“Selam has provided us the first glimpse into how our early ancestors’ spines were organized,” Ward adds.
Zeresenay Alemseged, a professor in the department of organismal biology and anatomy at the University of Chicago, discovered Selam. The skeleton was surrounded by sandstone, and Alemseged and his team have been preparing the delicate fossil for 13 years at the National Museum of Ethiopia.

“Continued and painstaking research on Selam shows that the general structure of the human spinal column emerged over 3.3 million years ago, shedding light on one of the hallmarks of human evolution,” Alemseged says. “This type of preservation is unprecedented, particularly in a young individual whose vertebrae are not yet fully fused.”

A virtual examination

In order to be analyzed, Selam traveled to the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility in Grenoble, France, where Alemseged and the research team used high-resolution imaging technology to visualize the bones. Scans were later sent to Ward for further comparative studies.

“This technology provides the opportunity to virtually examine aspects of the vertebrae otherwise unattainable from the original specimen,” says coauthor of the study Fred Spoor, a professor of evolutionary anatomy in the department of biosciences at the University College London.

Ward says the scans indicated that Selam had the distinctive thoracic-to-lumbar joint transition found in other fossil human relatives, but the specimen is the first to show that, like modern humans, our earliest ancestors had only twelve thoracic vertebrae and twelve pairs of ribs, which is fewer than in most apes.

“This unusual early human configuration may be a key in developing more accurate scenarios concerning the evolution of bipedality and modern human body shape,” says Thierra Nalley, an assistant professor of anatomy at Western University of Health Sciences, also an author of the paper.

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UMKC Chancellor Leo Morton announces his retirement after nearly a decade on the job

BY MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS
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Praised by many as a champion for Kansas City, University of Missouri-Kansas City Chancellor Leo Morton on Tuesday announced in a memo to the campus that he will retire next year.

“I plan to remain through the upcoming academic year,” Morton wrote in his letter. “I still have several major projects that I want to complete before I retire.”

**Morton, who had been a Kansas City business executive, was serving as president of the UMKC board of trustees when Gary Forsee, at the time University of Missouri System president, tapped him to step in as interim chancellor.**

Four months later, in December 2008, Morton was named chancellor of UMKC. And much of the city cheered at the announcement.

“I think what Leo Morton has done for our city is remarkable,” said Greg Graves, retired chairman and CEO for the Burns & McDonnell engineering firm. “I’m not sure I can think of anyone who has done more for Kansas City in the last decade.”

When he was asked to stand in as interim chancellor, one day after retiring from corporate life, Morton told The Star that he hadn’t intended to take the position on a permanent basis. He said later that once at the helm, he fell in love with the job.

“I had spent 40 years in engineering and management roles,” Morton said in his letter Tuesday. “I never imagined I’d end up leading a great institution like UMKC. However, it has been one of the great blessings and privileges of my life to serve Kansas City’s university.”

Morton, 71, was the university’s seventh chancellor in a decade and has been the longest serving in the last 20 years. He took the reins when the university was facing a difficult financial picture.

Tuesday’s announcement comes just days after the university announced the elimination of roughly 30 jobs and other budget cuts because of reduced state funding.

“There hasn’t been a year that we haven’t faced some challenges,” Morton said. “These are indeed challenging times. But it will take several years to bring all of these challenges to solution. ... The people who will do that have to be people who develop the plans and own them and who will be here to see them through.”

Morton said he believes the university is well positioned with a staff of “smart and resilient” people “who know how to get things done.”

During his tenure at UMKC, Morton presided over a time of significant growth in enrollment and the physical campus, including construction of the Henry W. Bloch School of Management and the adjacent UMKC Student Union.
Morton said Tuesday he’s not done yet, which is why he’s staying on through the next academic year. In his letter, Morton cited a few things left to do, including a new laboratory building to expand the School of Computing and Engineering, an urban youth development initiative, and launching a new Career Development Institute to place UMKC students in high-impact internships throughout the Kansas City community.

And a big deal for Morton is to shepherd to fruition UMKC’s Downtown Arts Campus, one of the city’s Big 5 initiatives.

The arts campus has been a pet project for Morton, who worked help raise the money the university’s share — $48 million — of a 50-50 state match program to build the $96 million campus. Last month, the Missouri Senate passed a bill authorizing the state to borrow a matching amount through a bond issue to help fund the arts campus.

“During Leo’s tenure, there has been tremendous improvement in the university,” said Thomas Bloch, former CEO of H&R Block and co-founder of University Academy charter school in Kansas City.

“Under Leo’s leadership, the university is a more vital part of the Kansas City community, and there is a real sense of momentum on campus. Kansas City and UMKC have been very fortunate.”

But Morton said Bloch has it backward, that rather the fortune has been his.

When he prays at night, Morton said, “I always ask God to bless me to be able to serve others. If your intent is to do service, then being invited to do that is a real blessing. If I have any regret, it is that I could do more.”

Morton said that when he steps away from the university, he won’t be going far. Although he is a native of Alabama and before coming to Kansas City lived in New Jersey with his wife, Yvette Morton, he said Kansas City is home. He and his wife will stay in Kansas. The couple live in Leawood.

“I have always tried to serve with the best interests of UMKC and Kansas City close to my heart, and I’ll be working in partnership with our campus and community to ensure that UMKC continues on the path to be the great university this city needs,” Morton said.

John Phillips, vice chairman of the University System board of curators, said Tuesday he believes Morton has been “the most important factor in taking UMKC to its next level, academically, civically and in diversity. He is loved and admired by Kansas City. He will be sorely missed.”
Leo Morton, longtime chancellor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, announced Tuesday that he is retiring at the end of the coming academic year.

Morton has led UMKC as chancellor since 2008. Prior to that, he was interim chancellor during a national search.

He came to the university from the business world, working as a senior vice president for Aquila Inc., an electric company that merged with Great Plains Energy.

Morton is highly regarded in Kansas City for his work with organizations and agencies across the city. In 2014, he was named Kansas Citian of the Year by the region's Chamber of Commerce.

This is the second campus chancellor departure in a matter of a few months. Cheryl Schrader, former chancellor of the Missouri University of Science and Technology, left her role a few weeks ago to become the first female president at Wright State University.

After more than a year, the university system is expected to announce a chancellor for the flagship campus in Columbia on Wednesday. Multiple sources confirmed Tuesday that they’ve tapped Alexander Cartwright, provost at the State University of New York, for the job.

Tom George, chancellor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, has led the campus since 2003.
Mid-Missouri student studying abroad react to Manchester attacks

By Sara Maslar-Donar

COLUMBIA, Mo. - While he wasn't near the Manchester Arena at the time of Monday night's terror attack, University of Missouri junior Cole Hoskins said being in the area and seeing the real people affected by the tragedy has been surreal.

"Being right next to one, it's going to stick with me," he said. "I never thought I'd be in a position where on Facebook I could check in as safe from a terrorist attack."

Hoskins said he found out about the attack a few hours after it happened while he was on the University of Manchester campus studying. Although he wasn't in the area when it happened, he's been living about three miles from the arena since arriving in Manchester in January.

"The venue is within a quarter of a mile of the movie theater I go to and a mile within where I go out on the weekends," he said. "It's just very strange that that could have been easily somewhere I was."

There has been more police presence on the campus, Hoskins said, and helicopters were circling for the first time since he's been there.

Hoskins said Tuesday that he's had trouble focusing on studying for his final exams, considering what happened.

"You're usually on one side of the planet thinking 'oh, that's tragic and I couldn't imagine that' and then you're here where you're about a mile away from the vigil that was held earlier and you actually see people that are affected. It's very out of body."

The city remained on high alert Tuesday after officials raised the threat level, indicating another attack could be likely.

"It's kind of worrisome. I'm on campus right now at the library and I'm a little bit away from the
city but you have the thoughts in the back of your head," he said. "Am I truly safe and is there anything going on afterwards?"

After his experience, Hoskins said he would return to the United States in the next few weeks with a new perspective on these terror attacks.

"You can't let this take control of you and you can't really have such a deep fear because that's exactly what they want," he said. "When you give into that you're giving into their cause and I think that's completely wrong and just horrifying."

**Gov. Eric Greitens compares 'dark money' to 'dark voting’**

*BY WILL SCHMITT May 23, 2017*

Gov. Eric Greitens on Monday likened the American way of voting in secret to making untraceable political contributions to nonprofit organizations.

This remark earned him sharp rebukes from liberals and Democrats.

In an interview with conservative radio host Mark Reardon of KMOX on Monday, the Republican governor discussed the special session he called in hopes lawmakers pass legislation that could benefit metal manufacturers and utility companies like Ameren. Lawmakers on Tuesday discussed amending it after some said the legislation would allow utility companies to hike rates for residential customers.

Greitens rehashed rhetoric from his end-of-the-session press conference May 12, characterizing state lawmakers as unruly schoolchildren who hadn't completed their assigned task and needed to return to Jefferson City for "summer school."

The conversation continued to the topic of A New Missouri, a nonprofit operated by Greitens' senior adviser, campaign treasurer and his attorney. The governor has insisted he has no day-to-day role with A New Missouri but declined to define his role more clearly at the May 12 press conference.
The nonprofit, which does not disclose its donors and is not required to do so, was formed to advocate for Greitens' agenda. For example, A New Missouri organized and is funding a busing excursion for Greene County Republicans to travel to the Capitol to rally support as the legislature got back to work.

A New Missouri has been scrutinized because of the undisclosed "dark money" that funds it and its attacks on several senators: The nonprofit published a GOP senator's cellphone number and prepared attacks against several others, including Springfield Sen. Bob Dixon.

Reardon asked Greitens about the nonprofit, and by way of criticizing "donor intimidation," Greitens said he believed people should be able to donate to nonprofits such as the National Rifle Association without having their personal information subject to disclosure.

Unlike nonprofit organizations, candidate committees and political action committees are required to identify donors and publish contributions under Missouri's current campaign finance laws.

Greitens likened the practice of making untraceable political contributions ("dark money") through nonprofit organizations to that of casting secret ballots — the typical method of voting in America for over a century.

"People go in and they vote (and) nobody calls that 'dark voting,'" Greitens said.

**Backlash from Democrats**

The reaction from liberals was predictable, swift and brutal.

"That dog won't hunt," said Roy Temple, former chair of the Missouri Democratic Party.

"One of the more ridiculous things I've ever heard," said Anne McCaskill Moroh, sister of U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Missouri.

"This may be the single dumbest thing I've ever read on money in politics #darkballots," tweeted David Turner, who ran the campaign of Greitens' gubernatorial opponent, Chris Koster.

Sen. McCaskill herself waded into the Twitter fray on Tuesday.

"Gov Greitens said he didn't want to give names of donors of his dark $ account to the govt," the Missouri Democrat tweeted. "No Gov, you would be giving it to the PEOPLE."

Two Democratic state senators publicly asked Greitens to clarify his comments and said the secretive nonprofit "ensures that he will continue to play the game" like the "career politicians" the governor frequently criticizes.
"I cannot truly believe that a Governor who recently admitted to breaking campaign finance laws would have the audacity to call for dismantling the very system that exposed his wrongdoing," said Sen. Jason Holsman, D-Kansas City.

Sen. Scott Sifton, D-St. Louis County, spoke in favor of Missouri's existing campaign finance laws, calling them a "bedrock of transparency."

"The governor is wrong to malign transparency and disclosure," Sifton said. "The people have a right to know who is paying for campaigns."

**Greitens' office: This is "intimidation"**

Asked for an explanation of the governor's comments, Greitens' official spokesman, Parker Briden, responded by referring the News-Leader to a 1958 U.S. Supreme Court decision that involved the NAACP. In the email, Briden argued that pushing nonprofits like A New Missouri to disclose their donors amounts to "intimidation efforts by the government and liberal media."

In doing so, Briden drew a parallel between the Missouri nonprofit advancing the governor's priorities and a national civil rights organization operating in the Deep South during the Jim Crow era.

He also reiterated a claim made by senior adviser Austin Chambers to the Kansas City Star that the only people expressing transparency concerns are Democrats and reporters.

In the most recent legislative session, it was Republicans who promoted legislation targeting lobbyist influence and dark money. The first priority among House Republicans was advancing a bill limiting gifts from lobbyists to lawmakers, which died in the Senate.

"The Governor supports the 1st Amendment. He supports the Supreme Court's longstanding view, going all the way back to NAACP v. Alabama, that no one should be put into a government registry for supporting an advocacy group," Briden said in a written statement.

Politically active nonprofits — such as the Koch brothers-backed Americans for Prosperity — made similar arguments in an early May hearing about a bill to require certain nonprofits to disclose donor information.

In NAACP v. Alabama, the civil rights organization fought the Southern state's request to provide membership information. The NAACP argued that doing so would have a chilling effect on its members' ability to associate with the group and would negatively impact its membership base.

The Supreme Court, in a unanimous opinion delivered by Justice John Marshall Harlan II, agreed with the NAACP that releasing members' personal information could harm them.
"Inviolability of privacy in group association may in many circumstances be indispensable to preservation of freedom of association, particularly where a group espouses dissident beliefs," Harlan wrote.

The court likened membership disclosure to "a requirement that adherents of particular religious faiths or particular parties wear identifying armbands" and Harlan said the NAACP showed that revealing its rank-and-file members could subject them to "economic reprisal, loss of employment, threat of physical coercion, and other manifestations of public hostility."

"Twisted act of logic": law professor

**Richard Reuben, a law professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia, was surprised and concerned by Greitens' line of reasoning.** Extending the privacy protections granted to members in the NAACP case to donors to politically oriented nonprofits would need to meet a "high burden" in a legal proceeding, he said.

"It is a twisted act of logic to equate the privacy involved with the right to vote with the secrecy involved in a contribution to a political (organization)," Reuben said Tuesday.

Reuben noted that "the Governor's comparison is that it goes against the principle of disclosure as a means of regulating the flow of money in American politics."

"This is one mode of regulation that the conservative U.S. Supreme Court consistently supported for years," he said. "Gov. Greitens apparently doesn't believe in that either."

Greitens has not offered a compelling reason that the privacy of his donors outweighs the public interest or that they would face harassment if identified, Reuben said.

It's impossible to say whether conservative donors in Missouri would be subject to the same level of danger as people supporting black rights in the 1950s because "we don't know who they are," Reuben added. "Context makes a difference."

Greitens’ nonprofit is registered as a 501(c)(4), or "social welfare," organization with the Internal Revenue Service. The IRS offers examples of these groups as entities that manage public airports and community organizations such as private neighborhood security or local sports league sponsors.

Political organizations are set up separately and are subject to different filing and disclosure requirements.

Reuben said he thinks a valid complaint could be filed against A New Missouri with the IRS. Revenue agents could start a compliance check or examination that leads to a reclassification of the nonprofit as a political action committee, which would then be required to disclose donor information, he said.
Whether any complaints have been filed against A New Missouri is unknown. An IRS spokesman said the agency is prohibited by law from commenting on complaints or saying whether a complaint of this nature has been filed.

The $833 billion albatross around the necks of women with college degrees

The burden of student debt is having an outsize impact on women who now hold nearly two thirds of the $1.3 trillion in outstanding education loans, according to a report released Wednesday by the American Association of University Women.

“It’s important to understand all of the challenges facing women in the United States, and in terms of their economic well-being, student debt is a big one,” said Kevin Miller, senior researcher at the AAUW.

Based on data from the Education Department, Miller and his team estimate that women enrolled in college borrow about 14 percent more on average than men in a given year. Women typically owe $1,500 more than their male counterparts upon completion of a bachelor’s degree, and African American women take on more student debt on average than any other group of women, the study said.

Khallilah Watkin, 27, can attest to the struggle that some African American women face in covering the cost of college. There was no end to the emotional support her family provided while she attended the University of Missouri, but Watkins said no one had the financial resources to help pay for tuition, room and board, so she borrowed nearly $50,000 to obtain a bachelor’s degree.

By the time she landed at Trinity Washington University to pursue an advanced degree in communications, Watkins hoped to keep her borrowing to a minimum by using a portion of the education grant she received after serving as a high school counselor through AmeriCorps. But she still needed to take out more loans. After dropping out of Trinity because of financial hardship, Watkins deferred her loan payments as she had trouble finding work to cover all of her expenses. With the interest that accrued on the debt, she now owes $74,000.

“I’m a first-generation college student, so I had to figure out a lot of this on my own,” said Watkins, who lives in Chicago with her husband and newborn daughter. “I wasn’t naive about having to repay the debt, but the interest accumulation — it’s just all too much.”
Considering the larger loan amounts that women take on and the fact that they make up more than half of the college population, the study estimates that 64 percent of student debt, or about $833 billion, is held by women. That number may actually be bit higher because the study only looked at graduates, not women who drop out of college or mothers who take out parent loans to help their children pay for school.

The study found that it takes the average woman nearly two years longer to repay student loans than their male counterparts. Researchers suspect that gender wage inequality plays a large role in the disparity in repayment rates. An earlier study by the association found that women with college degrees earn 26 percent less than men in comparable jobs. Lower incomes and longer repayment timetables are a drag on women’s financial security, the study said.

The pace of repayment is especially slow for African American and Latino women, who also have among the highest default rates. While a third of all women who were repaying student loans reported having trouble covering living expenses within the past year, the same was true for 57 percent of African American women, the study said.

Curry Oglesby, 30, felt forced to choose between paying her loans and covering rent, groceries and transportation after graduating from Howard University in 2009. At the time, she held a commission-based retail job that meant her paycheck fluctuated from one month to the next. That eventually led her to request a deferment of her loan payments, but after exhausting the option, Oglesby wound up in default on her $20,000 debt. Within several months, the government began garnishing her wages.

“It’s been a hard go,” said Oglesby, who contended on and off with garnishment from 2014 to 2016 as she switched jobs. “I worked really, really hard to make sure my commissions made up for the money I was losing. I paid down a lot of the debt, got it down to $6,000 and got the garnishment off.”

Oglesby said she wishes her high school had offered more guidance on paying for college and selecting a career. Despite excelling in math and science classes, she thought teachers steered her into what she felt were more-gendered professions, such as teaching.

“That negatively affected my idea of what I thought I could do, and negatively affected my potential earnings,” she said. “My parents just wanted me to get a degree and get a job, so I could have used a little more guidance.”

Anne Hedgepeth, senior government relations manager at AAUW, said colleges and universities need to play a bigger role in financial literacy and be advocates for greater state and federal investment to reduce the need to borrow.

The association is calling on Congress to strengthen the federal Pell Grant program by making appropriations entirely mandatory to avoid annual funding disputes. The purchasing power of the grant is at its lowest level at a time when college costs continue to climb, leaving students of modest means susceptible to borrowing a lot for school costs. The group also wants lawmakers
to safeguard support services, such as on-campus child care, that help women complete their degrees.

Both the purchasing power of Pell and the future of campus child care are under threat in the 2018 White House budget. While President Trump supports extending Pell awards for three semesters, instead of two, he wants to leave the maximum award at $5,920 and plans to pull $3.9 billion out of the program’s reserve fund. His budget also cuts all funding to a federal program that assists low-income college students with child-care costs, known as the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS).

“Anything that helps ensure that students graduate in a timely fashion is also a way to support students in repayment,” Miller said. “And that means focusing resources on nontraditional students and students who are most likely to leave school because we know that they often have the hardest time repaying student debt.”

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

What Trump’s Proposed 2018 Budget Would Mean for Higher Ed

NO MU MENTION

BY ADAM HARRIS May 23, 2017

The Trump administration on Tuesday released its budget proposal for the 2018 fiscal year. All told, the budget would cut federal education programs by more than $10 billion. The Department of Education’s total operating budget would be slashed by $9 billion, and spending on secondary-education programs would be redirected to school-choice initiatives — the chief policy goal of Betsy DeVos, the education secretary.

President Trump’s budget would eliminate the public-service loan-forgiveness program, subsidized Stafford Loans, and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants; begin to phase out the National Endowments for the Arts and for the Humanities; and allow the Perkins Loan program to expire. It would also cut spending in half on Federal Work-Study programs, slash the budget of the National Institutes of Health by a fifth, eliminate programs that foster foreign-language study, and reduce spending that supports international-education programs and exchanges, such as the Fulbright Scholar program, by 55 percent.
The administration’s budget proposal for the 2018 fiscal year, which begins on October 1, is not the final version, and congressional leaders have already started railing against many of the president’s more drastic cuts, noting that Congress has the final say on appropriations bills.

“Congress will write the budget and set the spending priorities. Where we find good ideas in the president’s budget, we will use them,” said Sen. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, chair of the Senate education committee, in a written statement. “We should not pretend to balance the budget by cutting national laboratories, national parks, and the National Institutes of Health,” he continued.

Molly Corbett Broad, president of the American Council on Education, echoed that sentiment. “Thankfully, Congress has the ultimate responsibility for setting funding levels, and with the FY 2017 spending bills, it showed a willingness to reject similarly damaging proposals,” she said in a written statement. “Colleges and universities and their students will work with Congress to continue the historic, bipartisan support for federal student aid and research funding.”

Cuts in Student Aid and Loan Forgiveness

The elimination of the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants and cuts in Work-Study would negatively affect low-income and first-generation college students, said Carrie Warick, director of policy and advocacy at the National College Access Network. “The programs proposed for dramatic reductions or eliminations are all important building blocks that help our low-income, first-generation, and students of color access and complete a higher education. For these students, every dollar counts when piecing together a financial-aid package,” she said.

The elimination of the public-service loan-forgiveness program, she added, would make it more difficult for nonprofit organizations to recruit qualified staff members.

Critics of the public-service loan-forgiveness program have argued that it is too generous, and that it does not cap the amount of debt that can be forgiven. According to The Washington Post, at least 552,931 people are enrolled in the program, and the prospect that the Trump administration would seek to shut it down had sparked widespread fears among those participants, many of whom have made long-term career plans on the assumption that their choices would enable their student loans to be forgiven. The budget plan says, however, that all student-loan proposals, including public-service loan forgiveness and the elimination of subsidized loans, would apply only to loans originating on or after July 1, 2018, and current participants in the programs would be allowed to complete them based on current policies.

Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers, admonished the administration for proposing to cut higher-education spending — and specifically the public-service loan-forgiveness program, which many public-school teachers are eligible for. “Ending the public-service loan-forgiveness program, in which half a million Americans are already enrolled, is unconscionable,” she said. “To pull the rug out from the tens of millions of PSLF-eligible Americans who are not enrolled, despite claiming student debt is an albatross around students’ necks, is the height of hypocrisy.”
Not everyone was displeased with the proposal to eliminate the program, though. Mary Clare Reim, a policy analyst at the Heritage Foundation, said the budget had promising reforms and was a step toward fiscal responsibility in the student-loan area. Eliminating the public-service loan-forgiveness program in particular, she said, would be a victory for taxpayers.

**Cuts in Spending on Scientific and Medical Research**

As with its preliminary outline in March, the administration’s full budget proposal represents a broad assault on federally sponsored scientific exploration, and it drew renewed criticism from college and university leaders and a bipartisan array of lawmakers.

The more-detailed plan issued on Tuesday would cut the budget of the National Institutes of Health by 22 percent, essentially repeating the position of its March outline, even though top administration officials hosted a White House meeting on May 9 at which they endorsed the idea that biomedical research has widespread economic and health benefits.

Tuesday’s plan also offered the administration’s first budget recommendation for the National Science Foundation, a one-year cut of 11 percent. The administration also proposed a 17-percent cut for the Department of Energy’s Office of Science, a 70-percent reduction in research on energy efficiency and renewable energy at the Energy Department, a 44-percent cut in science and technology at the Environmental Protection Agency, and the elimination of the energy-innovation agency ARPA-E.

Even under Republican control, Congress has shown a willingness to push back on such proposals. In passing their final budget for the 2017 fiscal year earlier this month, lawmakers provided spending increases for several key science agencies, including a one-year boost of $2 billion for the NIH.

While acknowledging the Trump plan is not likely to be accepted by Congress, research advocates slammed it as a misguided view of national priorities. The administration’s proposed cuts “would devastate America’s science and technology enterprise, and negatively affect our nation’s economy and public well-being,” said Rush Holt, chief executive officer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The Trump budget “would effectively cripple our nation’s scientific efforts, undermining our economic growth, public health, and national security,” said Mary Sue Coleman, president of the Association of American Universities.

**Year-Round Pells and Fewer Repayment Options**

The administration’s proposal also includes support for year-round Pell Grants, which was revived in the congressional budget deal that covered spending for the rest of the current fiscal year. The budget would not, however, index Pell Grants to inflation, which would have raised its diminishing buying power, as many advocates had hoped. “While the return of year-round Pell will be a great benefit to students — most likely starting in summer 2018 — if lawmakers do not also take action to extend automatic adjustments and increase the maximum Pell Grant award annually, its purchasing power will continue to decline,” said Ms. Warick.
President Trump followed through on one of his campaign promises by proposing a single income-driven repayment plan, replacing the five current plans. Borrowers’ monthly payments would be capped at 12.5 percent, with any remaining balance being forgiven after 15 years of repayment for undergraduate borrowers and 30 years for graduate borrowers.

There is widespread support for consolidating the current menu of income-driven repayment plans into one or two options. However, Clare McCann, a senior policy analyst in New America’s education-policy program, said the terms of the plan proposed in Mr. Trump’s budget would create a dichotomy between graduate and undergraduate students. “It really balances the cost of shorter-term repayment plans for undergraduates on the backs of graduates,” she said.

The president’s budget is a messaging document, she continued. While it may be used as justification for later changes, she said it is highly unlikely all of the proposed cuts will be reflected in the budget eventually passed by Congress.

“Members of Congress always do and have made clear that they intend to follow their own process for this,” she said. “The implications of the cuts for their constituents would be severe.”