Senate Chair Jon McGinnis reported the following information to the Senate/Assembly:

- Committee Chairs have now been elected for all of the Senate and Assembly committees and the committees are up and running.
- The Promotion of Non-Tenure Track Faculty Committee will be reviewing and updating the NTT promotion guidelines. If you have suggestions for improving the guidelines, please send your input to Committee Chair Theresa Coble or to senate@umsl.edu
- The deadline for applying to the Junior Travel Grant Competition is Oct. 14. The Office of Research and Economic & Community Development will be announcing a call for applications soon.

Chancellor Kristin Sobolik announced the following information:

- UMSL has risen to No. 107 among all public universities in the nation according to the US News & World Report 2023 “Best Colleges” ranking.
- US News & World Report ranks UMSL No. 75 in the nation among the “Top Performers on Social Mobility.” The 2023 ranking highlights how well universities advance social mobility by enrolling and graduating large proportions of students who receive Pell Grants.
- UMSL earned the 2022 Higher Education Excellence Award (HEED) which is a national honor recognizing universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion. UMSL is one of 103 universities across the nation – and the only university in Missouri – to be recognized with the distinction this year.
- Chancellor Sobolik provided an enrollment update. Enrollments for first-time-to-college students has increased by 67%. The number of transfer students has also increased by 17%. She reported that enrollment is down for this Fall semester. She asked that we continue to work on retaining our students all the way through to graduation.

Staff Association Chair Ms. Olivia Mendez-Alm provided the following information:

In their September meeting, the Board of Curators approved a significant change to the staff leave program. To learn more about the plan, see: https://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/modernizing-leave

Student Government Association President Ms. Sydney Stark shared the following:

Ms. Stark presented a resolution regarding Election Day Attendance Policy that was introduced by the Intercampus Student Council from all four UM System campuses. The resolution asks that faculty members avoid scheduling high-stake exams or presentations on Election Day. It also asks that faculty give students the opportunity to vote and serve as poll workers by implementing asynchronous coursework or a lenient attendance policy on Election Day. The University Assembly showed their support by voting to endorse the resolution.

Budget Update: Ms. Tanika Busch, CFO, reported that the campus closed the FY22 budget with a 3.7% net operating margin. The FY23 budget submitted was approved by the Board of Curators and showed as a balanced budget that will need to be refined throughout the year with current enrollment, actual compensation, etc. The Finance & Administration Office has engaged subject matter experts for the drivers for the 5-year financial plan process that will be presented to the Budget and Planning Committee at a future meeting for recommendations. It was indicated that UMSL leadership is committed to both merit and market increases each year of the plan.

Athletics Report: The Assembly received an Athletics update from Faculty Athletics Representative Dr. Joe Pickard and Ms. Lindsay Pickering. If you have any questions or concerns about student athletes, please contact Dr. Pickard or Ms. Pickering. They encouraged everyone to attend upcoming games and matches.

New Student Engagement Software: For Triton Connect info, contact Ms. Michaela Wells at mswells@umsl.edu

Master Plan Update: Mr. Matt Prsha, Interim Executive Director of Facilities Management, reported that the following projects are planned: Relocating College of Optometry offices to Patient Care Center 2nd floor and Provincial House; moving Fine Arts and Music to AAB; SSB Modernization & Expansion; Relocating College of Education from South Campus to Quad area on North Campus; Library Renovation; renovating the JCPenney building into a Welcome/Alumni Center; and Accelerate Consolidation. The buildings that will eventually be demolished are: Marillac Hall, Music Building, Education Administration Building, Sassin Building, Post Office, and the South Campus Classroom Building.