

Request for feedback from senators on behalf of the faculty in the academic unit represented.

Celebrate UMKC: Convocation

Commencement and Convocation are the two bookmark events of the academic year where recognition and celebration of academic and university accomplishments are key objectives. At Commencement we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating students and respect the academic “pomp and circumstance” by the wearing of the academic regalia by the faculty.

Celebrate UMKC: Convocation provides the opportunity to recognize – through major awards – the exemplary accomplishments of our colleagues in teaching, research and service; the premier contributions of the staff who support our academic enterprise; and major student contributions to both their peers and our university. The 2005 Convocation is scheduled for the latter part of the morning on Thursday, September 15, in White Recital Hall. In recent years, faculty has been well represented with about 200 of us participating.

In preparing for this event, the organizing committee is seeking the input from faculty representatives of each academic unit regarding:

- **Would the wearing of academic regalia by faculty contribute to a celebratory and formal atmosphere of the event, similar to Commencement?**
- **If the answer is yes: would the faculty in your academic unit support the recommendation to include academic regalia as part of Celebrate UMKC: Convocation?**

It is important to note the following:

- Take into consideration the possible difference between faculty who indicate a willingness and interest to participate — and have done so in the past — and the opinion of faculty who are not interested in participating.
- Wearing regalia will not be mandatory: participation of faculty in this celebration is the important issue, not the regalia.
- If faculty recommend the wearing of regalia, support for renting regalia must still be obtained from academic deans.

Please provide your feedback to me by Email to WaterborgJ@umkc.edu

Thank you in advance.