April 20, 2015

Dear Senators and Deans,

Please assist us to identify a faculty member from each academic unit to serve on a faculty-lead, Faculty Development design team charged with developing a faculty approach for diversity education. We would like involvement from both tenure track and non-tenure track faculty members, who have teaching as their primary responsibility. We ask that Deans or their designees appointment Faculty Development design team members by May 11 for a renewable, two year service period to begin this summer. Participation will involve scheduled team meetings once per month and additional subcommittee work outside of larger team meetings. We ask that members miss no more than two absences per year to maintain the service appointment.

With representation from each academic unit, we will ensure that a variety of perspectives are included in this endeavor to move forward on the Chancellor’s Diversity Council 2014 Diversity Strategic Plan including from Dimension 3: Responsive Teaching, Research & Experiential Learning objectives to:

- enhance faculty learning initiatives in educational methodologies that reach students multiple learning styles,
- provide technical assistance related to cultural competency, diversity, and inclusion as a requirement for effective teaching across curricula, and
- develop academic structures and funding plans to support the breadth and depth of teaching and research needed to obtain inclusion, equity, and diversity outcomes in learning and contributions to knowledge on campus, regionally, nationally and globally.

Participation on this faculty-lead, Faculty Development design team merits University, Professional and Public Service for faculty involved according to the University of Missouri Intercampus Faculty Council Statement on Faculty Workload found on page 9:

**UNIVERSITY, PROFESSIONAL, AND PUBLIC SERVICE**

University service includes activities related to participation in shared governance and other duties that contribute to the success of the University in accomplishing its mission. This includes activities such as involvement in campus governance, leadership roles in campus committees, special consultation to academic or administrative units on campus, providing teaching or conducting workshops for members of the campus community, etc.

Professional, academic or public service may involve such items as service to professional societies, serving as an editor for professional journals, providing consultation in one’s area of expertise to governmental agencies or commissions, developing strategies to attack persistent problems locally or nationally, field studies, consultation with local or state agencies, working with local high school teachers and students, etc. This type of service is applying one’s special knowledge, research skills, teaching or technical expertise in areas to provide a service to the university, the local or regional community, or the nation.

The Division of Diversity and Inclusion will provide the team with consultation and support. We thank you in advance for canvassing your faculty and assisting us to appoint persons that are interested in serving the University to advance diversity and inclusion. Please forward me any questions and thank you for supporting this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Susan B. Wilson, Ph.D MBA
Vice Chancellor, UMKC Division of Diversity and Inclusion