STATEMENT ON REPORTED ATTEMPTED STRONG-ARM ROBBERY

A faculty member has reported an attempted strong-arm robbery that occurred at approximately 9:40 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 17, near the intersection of 52nd and Holmes streets.

The female faculty member told the University of Missouri-Kansas City Police Department that she was approached by two suspects who first asked for change. When she said she didn’t carry cash, the taller suspect restrained her and demanded her purse. She told him no, screamed for help and the suspects ran away westbound on 52nd Street. The victim then went to her car and drove to the UMKC Police station.

Descriptions:

- Suspect 1: African American male, 16-19 years of age, 5’10”, 160 pounds, thin build, wearing dark clothing and a striped beanie.
- Suspect 2: African American male, 16-18 years of age, 5’8”, 150 pounds, thin build

We want to remind you to be attentive to your surroundings at all times – whether on campus, shopping or at home.

If you have any information or were in the area of this incident about the time it occurred, please don’t hesitate to call the UMKC Police Department at 816-235-1515 and ask to speak with the supervisor on duty.

Safety tips:

- If you suspect someone is following you, don’t go home. Drive to the nearest police or fire station or a well-lighted, populated area. If you have a cellular phone, call 911 for help.
- Always attempt to park in a well-lighted area, near sidewalks or walkways. Avoid parking near dumpsters, woods, large vans or trucks, or anything else that limits your visibility.
- If you return home and notice someone you don’t recognize, drive around the block and come back after the person has left the area.

Crime prevention tips, as well as informational workshops, may be obtained by contacting the crime prevention office of the UMKC Police Department at 816-235-1515, or visiting the UMKC Police web site, http://www.umkc.edu/adminfinance/police/.