



Dear Faculty and Staff,

We have heard concerns from many individuals about the aggressive timeline for our university's program prioritization process and especially given the complexity of this process. Subsequent to the establishment of the original deadlines, much has transpired. Not the least of which includes the arrival of Interim Chancellor Chris Maples and now the additional withholdings and reductions recently announced by Governor Eric Greitens.

University of Missouri System President Mun Choi will soon present his budgetary expectations for the UM System in light of the governor's withholding announcement and the outlook for future state funding. As his expectations are disseminated and fully understood, we will seek further clarity from the UM System on how the programmatic review process should proceed. Please understand that we fully anticipate the process to continue in general, but based upon the current state of stable financial health at S&T, we hope to secure more time for even greater dialogue to consider our next actions.

Therefore, the deadlines previously established (Aug. 1 for non-academic program assessment and Sept. 1 for academic program assessment) will be extended. We anticipate that a new deadline for these plans and ultimate submission to President Choi will be reestablished following further consultation with Dr. Choi and his team. In the meantime, please stay tuned for updated announcements regarding the process and timeline.

We also wish to say thank you to Rose Horton for her tireless efforts to date, as well as many of you who have contributed thus far to the data collection, organization and assessment process. Please know that your work is not wasted; our university is now better prepared to respond to process changes because of all you have done. It is clear there will be very robust conversations possible as a result of these efforts. And thank you to those who expressed concerns over the deadlines — not to avoid the task, but to have the ability to engage in even more meaningful analysis, consultation and decision-making.

Sincerely,

Walter J. Branson
Vice Chancellor
Finance and Operations

Robert J. Marley, PhD
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor
Academic Affairs

