

## Search Committee Formed to Hire New Dean

On September 24, 2008, Gail Hackett, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, announced the appointment of the search committee for the dean of the School of Dentistry. In keeping with UMKC's practice of asking a dean to chair search committees for new deans, Dr. Robert Piepho, dean of the School of Pharmacy, agreed to serve as the chair of School of Dentistry's search committee. The University has retained the services of Greenwood/Asher and Associates, an executive search firm, to assist the committee. The search committee hopes to complete its work by the end of the Spring 2009 semester.

The 17-member search committee has faculty representation but also reflects several of UMKC's constituents, including representatives from the staff, student body, administration, alumni and community. In addition to **Dean Piepho**, the search committee includes:

**Brenda Bohaty**, Professor, Director, Advanced Education Program in Pediatric Dentistry, School of Dentistry.

**Kim Bray**, Professor and Director, Division of Dental Hygiene, School of Dentistry.

**Jerry Cash**, UMKC School of Dentistry Alumnus, practicing dentist.

**Karen Dace**, Deputy Chancellor of Diversity, Access, and Equity.

**Pat Mason-Dozier**, Chief Dental Officer, Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center, Inc., practicing dentist.

**David Eick**, Curators' Professor, Chair, Department of Oral Biology, School of Dentistry.

**Ed Gogol**, Associate Professor, School of Biological Sciences, UMKC Faculty Senate Representative.

**Stanley Hite**, Executive Committee, Rinehart Foundation, UMKC School of Dentistry Alumnus, practicing dentist.

**Zavon Kanion**, UMKC School of Dentistry Alumnus, practicing dentist.

**Bill Marse**, Director, Biomedical Communications, School of Dentistry.

**Pam Overman**, Associate Dean and Professor, School of Dentistry.

**John Rapley**, Professor and Chair, Department of Periodontics, School of Dentistry.

**Chris Rice**, Associate Professor, School of Dentistry.

**Mary Walker**, Professor, School of Dentistry.

**Joseph Craig Whitt**, Associate Professor and Faculty Chair, School of Dentistry.

**Danielle Zust**, Student and the third-year School of Dentistry's Class President. ■

## Dr. Nancy Mills Named Interim Dean



Dr. Nancy Mills

Shortly after Dr. Michael Reed announced in August that he was stepping down as dean of the UMKC School of Dentistry after 23 years, Dr. Gail Hackett, UMKC provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, hosted an open meeting at the dental school to request recommendations and

input for a suitable interim dean. She promised to carefully consider the information she received and make an informed, timely decision. True to her word, Dr. Hackett announced on September 3, 2008, that Dr. Nancy Mills, who had retired as dean of the UMKC School of Nursing in 2004, had agreed to interrupt her retirement and serve as the school's interim dean. Dr. Mills reported for her first day of work at the School of Dentistry on Monday, October 6.

Dr. Mills' career at UMKC spanned almost three decades. At the time of her retirement, she was serving as the dean of the School of Nursing and as the interim vice chancellor for Research. During her 11 years of leadership as dean, the School of Nursing doubled its enrollment, tripled the size of its faculty, increased the number of students from underrepresented populations, boosted federal grant receipts and established an undergraduate program to award a bachelor's degree in nursing.

"We are fortunate to have Dr. Mills," announced Dr. Hackett. "She is an established leader, who has built strong relationships across the campus community and greater Kansas City. Even during her retirement, Dr. Mills has continued her strong advocacy for our life sciences professional schools, including serving on the Building Committee for the University's new Health Sciences Building."

Dr. Mills has received many professional honors, including the Community Leadership Award from the Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, the Honor Society of Nursing; Award for Outstanding Partnership/Leadership from Health Resource Partners; and the UMKC Alumni Achievement Award, Nursing. She was also a participant in the Greater Missouri Focus on Leadership and a nominee in the Missouri Tribute to Nurses. ■