The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Present for the opening executive session discussions were Steve Moehrle, Harry Tyrer, Carole McArthur, Gary Ebersole, Nancy Stancel, Kattesh Katti, Susan Brownell, Chris Spilling, Dennis Miller, Michael Davis, Mark Fitch, and Bala Balakrishnan.

Steve Graham, Christa Weisbrook joined the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

I. National Council on Teacher Quality Update
Attorney Paul Maguffee provided an update on the request from the National Council on Teacher Quality to get course syllabi from professors in the Education schools across the system. Maguffee outlined the ramifications of providing and not providing the syllabi. The education faculty across the UM system have expressed differing views on the request. The discussion was more of an update on the proceedings rather than a request for a position from the IFC. A position on the matter will be announced shortly following the completion of discussions with the various potentially affected faculty members.

II. Sponsored Dependent Benefit
Human Resources Vice President Betsy Rodriguez explained that the former domestic partner benefit initiative has been revised to be a sponsored dependent benefit. Essentially, any adult meeting certain criteria can be designated by an employee to be a sponsored dependent benefit. This system is being used by other organizations and universities (e.g., The University of Kentucky) with excellent feedback. This benefit plan would involve a slightly higher cost. It is still expected that this initiative will be brought to the Board of Curators with a recommendation for approval in the spring. The IFC expressed general satisfaction with the program.

III. Discussion with President Wolfe and Nikki Krawitz
President Wolfe and Vice President Krawitz joined the teleconference at 10:00 a.m. President Wolfe provided an update on the strategic planning process. The IFC members questions revolved around the way the plan for competing for a percentage of the budget funds will be put into practice.
A discussion of the larger budget was also provided. The budget will be tight once again. The state of Missouri is providing less than 11% of its budget to higher education. This allocation was above 15% just 20 years ago. Missouri is below all contiguous and comparator states in terms of per capita state appropriations for higher education. Despite this, the UM system has grown dramatically (34% since 2000). Unfortunately, state appropriations per FTE are down 35% over that time. The budgeting process and the lobbying efforts are underway. IFC will be provided with another update as these processes progress.

X. Other business

A call for other business was made. No requests came forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.